

**Environmental Scan¹ – Relevant News on Disability Issues
(March-April, 2011) (Note: Contains excerpts of copyrighted material.)**

Canada

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
2/25/11	http://www.parentcentral.ca/parent/familyhealth/article/944466--unlocking-carly-using-one-finger-autistic-teen-uses-ipad-laptop-to-communicate	<p>Unlocking Carly: Using one finger, autistic teen uses iPad, laptop to communicate ...</p> <p>How does a non-verbal, 16-year-old autistic girl communicate? Go back to the opening paragraph.</p> <p>Carly Fleischmann wrote it. When she was very young, her parents were warned she would probably have to be put into an institution. But this autistic teen is now very capable of communicating. And she does so regularly, with wit, wisdom and typical teen chutzpah — via Twitter, Facebook, email and her website, carlyvoice.com, where she posted news of her interview with the Star.</p> <p>The Grade 10 student types with one finger. Software programs like WordQ predict words, and she chooses which ones to use. The software Proloquo2Go translates her text to voice, letting Carly “speak” to fellow students at the mainstream high school she attends, where she’s in a gifted English class.</p> <p>She types a message for Star readers: “Everyone has an inner voice waiting to come out.”...</p> <p>The WordQ* software that Carly Fleischmann uses has a couple of Toronto connections – it was created at the Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital** in the late 1990s, licensed to Quillsoft Ltd. and is now distributed worldwide by Strategic Transitions in partnership with Quillsoft...</p> <p>* http://www.wordq.com/</p> <p>** http://www.hollandbloorview.ca/</p> <p>More details at:</p> <p>http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F4XMIhCfp3Q</p> <p>http://carlyvoice.com/</p> <p>http://egablog.com/2010/07/autistic-girl-expresses-profound-intelligence/</p>
3/1/11	http://scienceblog.com/43231/moderate-sleep-loss-impairs-vigilance-and-sustained-attention-in-children-with-adhd/	<p>Moderate sleep loss impairs vigilance and sustained attention in children with ADHD</p> <p>A new study in the March 1 issue of the journal Sleep indicates that the ability of children with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder to remain vigilant and attentive deteriorated significantly after losing less than one hour of nightly sleep for a week. The study suggests that even moderate reductions in sleep duration can affect neurobehavioral functioning, which may have a negative impact on the academic performance of children with ADHD.</p> <p>Results of multivariate analyses of variance show that after mean nightly sleep loss of about 55 minutes for six nights, the performance of children with ADHD on a neurobehavioral test deteriorated from the subclinical range to the clinical range of inattention on four of six measures, including omission errors (missed targets) and reaction time. Children with ADHD</p>

**Environmental Scan¹ – Relevant News on Disability Issues
(March-April, 2011) (Note: Contains excerpts of copyrighted material.)**

		<p>generally committed more omission errors than controls. Although the performance of children in the control group also deteriorated after mean nightly sleep loss of 34 minutes for six nights, it did not reach a clinical level of inattention on any of the six measures.</p> <p>“Moderate sleep restriction leads to a detectable negative impact on the neurobehavioral functioning of children with ADHD and healthy controls, leading to a clinical level of impairment in children with ADHD,” said lead author and principal investigator Reut Gruber, PhD, assistant professor in the department of psychiatry at McGill University and director of the Attention, Behavior and Sleep Laboratory at Douglas Mental Health University Institute in Montreal, Québec...</p> <p>The AASM reports that the symptoms of ADHD and sleep loss can be confused in children, who often become hyperactive when they are sleep deprived. Learn more about the relationship between sleep and ADHD on the Sleep Education Blog at http://sleepeducation.blogspot.com/search/label/ADHD ...</p> <p>For a copy of the study, “Impact of sleep restriction on neurobehavioral functioning of children with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder,” or to arrange an interview with an AASM spokesperson, please contact Public Relations Coordinator Emilee McStay at 630-737-9700, ext. 9345, or emcstay@aasmnet.org http://www.journalsleep.org/ http://www.journalsleep.org/ViewAbstract.aspx?pid=28067</p>
3/17/11	http://www.stratfordbeaconherald.com/ArticleDisplay.aspx?e=3025370	<p>Facile: Independent Facilitation Perth County recently began assisting people with disabilities and their families to plan for and build a good life in the community...</p> <p>In addition to face-to-face meetings with a facilitator, Facile will also be launching a website to share information, promote conversation and provide resources to help people with disabilities, their families and facilitators to connect to the community.</p> <p>Dingwall said that while Facile currently receives some funding from the Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services for its website, its facilitation services remain independent from government services or funders.</p> <p>"We see the community as the first resource," she said.</p> <p>On July 1, the province is expected to proclaim its Social Inclusion Act, which could make person-directed planning services and supports like those offered by Facile eligible for government funding...</p> <p>http://facileperth.ca/</p>
3/22/11	http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/economy/economy-lab/the-economists/bad-policy-creates-the-poverty-trap/article1951459/	<p>Feeding the hungry. It's a global problem. It's also a local problem and a sign of costly malfunctions in housing and labour markets.</p> <p>In 2010, food banks in Ontario provided emergency food for 3.1 per cent of the population, up from an average of 2.4 per cent from 2000 to 2007, according to Running on Empty: A Decade</p>

**Environmental Scan¹ – Relevant News on Disability Issues
(March-April, 2011) (Note: Contains excerpts of copyrighted material.)**

		<p>of Hunger in Ontario* published Tuesday by the Ontario Association of Food Banks**. In the midst of so much plenty, there is hunger...</p> <p>Ontario social assistance and disability benefits impose severe penalties when clients earn income. Like most provinces, they claw back 50 per cent of earnings. When you combine that penalty with the fact that the work available is in low-paid, insecure jobs, family incomes fall far below the cost of living... Bad public policy is marginalizing the generation we were counting on to keep the economy humming as baby boomers head into retirement. This is devastating news for Canada at a time when the priority is to accelerate productivity growth to meet global competition. The combination of low-paid work and rents that far surpass their purchasing power leaves too many low-income Canadians hungry and malnourished and undermines the longer term prospects for the Canadian economy.</p> <p>* http://www.oafb.ca/assets/pdfs/HungerReport2010.pdf ** http://www.oafb.ca/</p>
3/29/11	http://www.montrealgazette.com/news/Smoking+increases+risk+suicide+study/4518645/story.html	<p>Here's another reason not to smoke - it has now been linked with an increased risk of suicide, independent of mental illness. A novel new Canadian study of almost 35,000 adults found nicotine dependence is associated with suicide attempts regardless of the mental disorders and physical disease that often accompany suicidal behaviour.</p> <p>It also supports previous research that describes nicotine as a "psychological toxin" that causes chemical changes in the brain associated with suicide.</p> <p>What's more, the work by the universities of Manitoba and Saskatchewan found suicidal tendencies diminished significantly among people who had quit smoking for at least a year. Former smokers were not only less likely to have attempted suicide than current smokers, but were less suicidal than lifelong non-smokers, which should give added momentum to smoking cessation programs...</p> <p>The research, to be published in coming days in the Canadian Journal of Psychiatry, opens a new avenue in the campaign to eradicate smoking, the leading cause of preventable death in Canada and worldwide...</p> <p>Among the current smokers studied, the new research also found those who consumed more than 20 cigarettes daily had higher odds of attempting suicide than those who smoked 10 or fewer.</p> <p>The Relation Between Nicotine Dependence and Suicide Attempts in the General Population</p> <p>Daniel Yaworski, MD; Jennifer Robinson, MA (PhD Candidate); Jitender Sareen, MD, FRCPC; James M Bolton, MD, FRCPC The Canadian Journal of Psychiatry, Vol 56, No 3, March 2011 http://publications.cpa-apc.org/media.php?mid=1129</p>

**Environmental Scan¹ – Relevant News on Disability Issues
(March-April, 2011) (Note: Contains excerpts of copyrighted material.)**

4/1/11	<p>Optimum Online http://www.optimumonline.ca/ To get complete access to ALL areas of Optimum Online site, you must be a registered user. REGISTRATION IS FREE</p>	<p>ON COLLABORATION http://www.optimumonline.ca/article.phtml?id=381 Christopher Wilson Vol. 41, Issue 1, Mar 2011 Who says collaboration won't work, is too expensive or too time consuming? Certainly not that iconic Fortune 100 manufacturer of construction and mining equipment Caterpillar Inc. Collaboration and knowledge sharing became important 'must haves' for the organization when it restructured itself in 1998, moving from being a silo-based organization to an umbrella for 26 global business units. In the process many of its employees lost track of each other and the knowledge they needed to share. "We found we were repeating the same mistakes and doing the same research multiple times from different business units," said Reed Stuedemann, a 27-year Caterpillar veteran and knowledge sharing manager. Simultaneously, the importance of its intangible assets, such as intellectual capital, grew. Those assets now account for 85 percent of the company's overall value. This meant that collaboration and knowledge sharing had to become key elements of its value adding process. In response, Caterpillar launched its Knowledge Network as a web-based system to reconnect its people and encourage knowledge sharing and working together. Unfortunately, most organizations treat knowledge sharing and collaboration either as unwanted inducements to power sharing or as unnecessary and inefficient steps in the process of decision making. It is a view that was well captured by former US Surgeon General, Jocelyn Elders, who observed, "collaboration is [seen as] an unnatural act between non-consenting adults." For all those who've tried their hand at collaboration and working with partners, her comment may, in fact, seem all too familiar. It captures the frustration of needing to work together in the first place as well as the unfamiliarity most people have with the tools and practices that might make the collaborative experience easy and 'natural' for us. Elders continues by bluntly naming that taboo assumption that we almost all share when we enter a room with potential partners: she says, We all say we want to collaborate, but what we really mean is that we want to continue doing things as we have always done them while others change to fit what we are doing... (for full text see http://www.optimumonline.ca/print.phtml?id=381)</p>
4/4/11	<p>http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2011-04/uom-nre032811.php</p>	<p>New research explains autistic's exceptional visual abilities ... Researchers directed by Dr. Laurent Mottron at the University of Montreal's Centre for Excellence in Pervasive Development Disorders* (CETEDUM**) have determined that people with autism concentrate more brain resources in the areas associated with visual detection and identification, and conversely, have less</p>

**Environmental Scan¹ – Relevant News on Disability Issues
(March-April, 2011) (Note: Contains excerpts of copyrighted material.)**

		<p>activity in the areas used to plan and control thoughts and actions. This might explain their outstanding capacities in visual tasks. The team published their findings in Human Brain Mapping*** on April 4, 2011...</p> <p>"We synthesized the results of neuroimaging studies using visual stimuli from across the world. The results are strong enough to remain true despite the variability between the research designs, samples and tasks, making the perceptual account of autistic cognition currently the most validated model," Mottron said.</p> <p>"The stronger engagement of the visual system, whatever the task, represents the first physiological confirmation that enhanced perceptual processing is a core feature of neural organization in this population. We now have a very strong statement about autism functioning which may be ground for cognitive accounts of autistic perception, learning, memory and reasoning." This finding shows that the autistic brain successfully adapt by reallocating brain areas to visual perception, and offers many new lines of enquiry with regards to developmental brain plasticity and visual expertise in autistics.</p> <p>* http://www.cenum.umontreal.ca/</p> <p>** http://www.lnc-autisme.umontreal.ca/n45/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=79&Itemid=31</p> <p>***</p> <p>http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1002/(ISSN)1097-0193 http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/hbm.21307/abstract Organization for Human Brain Mapping (OHBM) http://www.humanbrainmapping.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=1</p>
4/19/11	<p>ARCH Disability Law Centre- ARCH Alert – April 19, 2011 http://www.archdisabilitylaw.ca/?q=read-april-19-2011-arch-alert</p>	<p>The new law Services and Supports to Promote the Social Inclusion of Persons with Developmental Disabilities Act, 2008, creates ‘Application Entities’ which will be the only access point to apply for developmental services and supports. The vision of the legislation is for these Application Entities to serve as a single window entry point to developmental services in <u>Ontario</u> in order to increase fairness, transparency and consistency and to make it easier to access all the available programs and services that would meet the needs of the applicant.</p> <p>Starting on July 1, 2011, Developmental Services Ontario will be the only place where new applications for supports and services will be made and assessed for eligibility.</p> <p>For more information, please view the Ministry of Community and Social Services website, and the Ministry’s publication called Spotlight on Transformation at: www.mcscs.gov.on.ca/en/mcscs/publications/spotlight.aspx</p>
4/19/11	<p>ARCH Disability Law Centre- ARCH Alert – April 19, 2011 http://www.archdisabilitylaw.ca/?q=read-april-19-2011-arch-alert</p>	<p>Federal Disability Report: The Government of Canada’s Annual Report on Disability Issues</p> <p>The Federal Government released its Annual Report on disability issues.</p> <p>The 2010 Report focuses on what the Federal government refers to as “fundamental needs” and aims to look at the accessibility of meeting those needs by persons with disabilities across Canada...</p>

**Environmental Scan¹ – Relevant News on Disability Issues
(March-April, 2011) (Note: Contains excerpts of copyrighted material.)**

		The Report is available at the following website: http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/disability_issues/reports/fdr/2010/pa ge00.shtml
--	--	--

Other Countries

Australia

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
3/10/11	http://inventorspot.com/articles/student_designs_special_pot_handles_those_arthritis http://www.geekygadgets.com/arthritis-handle-makes-kitchen-work-easier-17-03-2011/	<p>Student Designs Special Pot Handles For Those With Arthritis...</p> <p>Even though Ching-Hao Hsu, a graduate student at Australia's Queensland University of Technology*, is focused on a career as a lighting designer, he has shown a unique interest in and talent for developing assistive tools for persons with disabilities. On the first short list of the James Dyson sponsored Australian Design Awards, the Arthritis Handle was clearly developed after significant research...</p> <p>Hsu's Arthritis Handle has ridges that grasps the rims of a pot. Though not a handle in the traditional sense, because it does not need to be held by a hand, the Arthritis Handle is supported by the user's wrist which is stronger than the hand...</p> <p>Arthritis Handle demonstration http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6aK5TDyA_wg&feature=player_embedded * http://www.qut.edu.au/</p>
3/17/11	http://www.probonoaustralia.com.au/news/2011/03/qld-emergency-warning-systems-disadvantage-those-disabilities	<p>The Queensland flood disaster has demonstrated strengths and weaknesses of Australia's emergency services and warnings systems, especially in terms of access for people with a disability, according to the Australian Communications Consumer Action Network (ACCAN)</p> <p>ACCAN has released a report it says explores an important dimension of Australia's emergency management framework - access to emergency services and emergency information by people who have a disability, particularly those who are deaf or have a speech or hearing impairment.</p> <p>ACCAN is the peak body that represents all consumers on communications issues including telecommunications, broadband and emerging new services...</p> <p>The report includes recommendations for a number of agencies, to improve access to emergency call services and information for people with disability.</p> <p>The report can be downloaded at: http://accan.org.au/files/Reports/The%20Queensland%20flood%20disaster%20Access%20for%20PWD%20Final.pdf http://accan.org.au/</p>

**Environmental Scan¹ – Relevant News on Disability Issues
(March-April, 2011) (Note: Contains excerpts of copyrighted material.)**

Ireland (includes Northern Ireland)

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
3/10/11	http://www.imt.ie/clinical/2011/03/assessment-and-treatment-of-depression-in-older-adults.html	<p>Assessment and treatment of depression in older adults</p> <p>Prof Greg Swanwick writes that depression is not an inevitable part of ageing and that there is a range of psychological and pharmacological treatments available to address the condition... The prognosis of untreated late-life depression (LLD) is poor. A systematic review and meta-analysis that combined results from 12 studies of depression in community-dwelling older people [in which a minority of subjects were treated] demonstrated that after two years of follow-up, 33 per cent were well, 33 per cent were depressed and 21 per cent had died...</p> <p>It is worth noting that depression is one of the most frequent co-morbid psychiatric disorders in Alzheimer's disease and other dementias, and is associated with worse quality of life, greater disability in activities of daily living, a faster cognitive decline, a high rate of nursing home placement, relatively higher mortality and a higher frequency of depression and burden in caregivers... Risk factors for LLD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bereavement: individuals three-to-six months after the loss, or more recently if unusual symptoms occur such as active suicidal ideation, guilt not related to the deceased, psychomotor retardation, mood-congruent delusions, marked functional impairment after two months of the loss, or a reaction that seems out of proportion with the loss; • Medical co-morbidity: within three months of a major physical illness, those with recurrent or prolonged hospitalisation, those with chronic disabling illness and those with neuropsychiatric diagnoses; • Recent placement in a nursing/long-term care home; • Social isolation; • Certain symptoms including: persistent complaints of memory difficulties; persistent sleep difficulties; significant somatic concerns or recent-onset anxiety; refusal to eat or neglect of personal care. <p>Depression screening tools for older people without significant cognitive impairment include the Geriatric Depression Scale (GDS), and the Brief Assessment Schedule Depression Cards (BASDEC) for hospitalised patients. For those with moderate-to-severe cognitive impairment, an observer-rated instrument such as the Cornell Scale for Depression in Dementia may be used instead of the GDS...</p> <p>Although most of the evidence for mental health interventions for older people lies with pharmacological treatments, there is good evidence for the effectiveness of psychotherapeutic interventions for LLD including: behaviour therapy; cognitive-behaviour therapy (CBT); problem-solving therapy; brief dynamic therapy; interpersonal therapy; and reminiscence therapy.</p>

**Environmental Scan¹ – Relevant News on Disability Issues
(March-April, 2011) (Note: Contains excerpts of copyrighted material.)**

		Some approaches have been devised specifically for older people, such as reminiscence and life review... Prof Greg Swanwick, Consultant Psychiatrist in the Psychiatry of Old Age & Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, AMNCH, Tallaght [List of references provided.]
--	--	--

New Zealand

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
		<i>nothing of relevance in this period</i>

Scotland

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
2/28/11	http://www.egovmonitor.com/node/40911	<p>The Scottish Government* is to spend an additional £2 million on providing short breaks for families who have severely disabled children.</p> <p>The money is on top of the £1 million for short breaks this year and £1 million in each of the next four years - making £5 million in total - already announced in July last year when the government's Carers Strategy** was launched.</p> <p>Announced today by Public Health Minister Shona Robison and Children's Minister Adam Ingram, the cash is expected to prioritise children with complex and exceptional needs and their families.</p> <p>The funding of short breaks is one of the key recommendations of the National Review of Services for Disabled Children*** - developed jointly by the Scottish Government, COSLA**** and the For Scotland's Disabled Children (FSDC)***** Liaison Project - being published today...</p> <p>The report of the national review includes a plan of action setting out 15 measures aimed at improving the lives of disabled children and their families. These include piloting the FSDC charter for Scotland's disabled children, exploring the potential of inspection regimes to focus on disabled children's services and a further look into learning provision for young people with complex additional support needs.</p> <p>It will also ensure that disabled children's issues are integral to the Child Poverty Strategy and that practitioners are supported in using the Getting it Right for Every Child approach with disabled children...</p> <p>It was also announced today that Scotland is to lead a UK-wide project to maximise the future practice, roles, career pathways and image of learning disability nursing in the changing health and social care landscape. The project is driven by a number of issues, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · the significant and increasing health needs of children, adults and older people with learning disabilities · the changing and challenging demographics within the learning disabled population · changing health and social care structures across the UK

**Environmental Scan¹ – Relevant News on Disability Issues
(March-April, 2011) (Note: Contains excerpts of copyrighted material.)**

		<p>· immediate workforce planning challenges within this specialist workforce.</p> <p>The project will develop a UK-wide professional framework for learning disability nursing targeted at maximising their contribution, whilst fully acknowledging the multi-professional and multi-agency context within which learning disability nurses work...</p> <p>The £2 million funding is for the financial year 2011-12 and will be allocated to the voluntary sector, who will be invited to come forward with proposals.</p> <p>* http://www.scotland.gov.uk/</p> <p>** http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/07/23153304/0</p> <p>http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/319441/0102104.pdf</p> <p>***</p> <p>http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/02/25151901/0</p> <p>http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/342923/0114135.pdf</p> <p>**** http://www.cosla.gov.uk/</p> <p>***** http://www.fsd.org.uk/</p> <p>http://www.fsd.org.uk/from-good-intentions/fsdc-liaison-project</p>
3/18/11	http://www.thesouthernreporter.co.uk/news/local-headlines/life_saving_invention_born_out_of_necessity_by_tumour_survivor_1_1525249	<p>Sam Docherty was diagnosed with a brain tumour in 2005. Although neurosurgery was largely successful, the college lecturer from Eddleston was left with partial paralysis and epilepsy.</p> <p>Out of that adversity has come a remarkable new invention – a life-saving audio device called Press Don't Panic. It went on sale last week and, according to Mr Docherty, is a product born of necessity...</p> <p>The button allows information to be recorded and stored by the wearer in any language, which can then be played back repeatedly when required. The playback, which can run for up to two minutes, can be initiated by the wearer or by those offering assistance.</p> <p>Incorporating a high-spec sound chip, loud enough to grab the attention of passers-by, the device is designed primarily for sufferers of long-term, life-threatening medical conditions, including epilepsy, diabetes, asthma and heart problems, as well as those with speech disorders, phobias or development disabilities like autism.</p> <p>http://www.pressdontpanic.com/</p>

UK

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
3/10/11	http://www.midsussextimes.co.uk/community/new_website_launched_for_disabled_young_people_1_2462674	<p>AN innovative website which aims to give information to disabled young people, their families and the community as a whole has been launched...</p> <p>The REACH OUT website has now been launched and contains a comprehensive information directory covering a broad range of topics. Included are a calendar of local events, resources, publications and links to information and advice on education,</p>

**Environmental Scan¹ – Relevant News on Disability Issues
(March-April, 2011) (Note: Contains excerpts of copyrighted material.)**

		<p>money matters, transition, short breaks, respite, equipment, support groups and a lot more besides...</p> <p>The site also contains an innovative resource called 'COMMUNIC8' which Chris North, consultant for Aiming High, has compiled, gathering imaginative techniques and tools which explore the creative ways people can communicate with each other...</p> <p>http://www.reachoutwestsussex.org.uk/</p>
4/12/11	<p>LDHealthNetwork Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk</p>	<p>Challenging behaviour: a guide for family carers on getting the right support</p> <p>The Challenging Behaviour Foundation is delighted to announce that three new 'At a glance' guides aimed at family carers supporting people whose behaviour is described as challenging are now available. There are separate guides for adults, teenagers and children.</p> <p>The guides have been developed in collaboration with the Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE). The guides help family carers to: . Understand what good support and services look like . Work in partnership with staff who are involved with the family . Find information on what to do and who to contact if the family's needs are not being met</p> <p>David Walden, Director of Adult Services at SCIE, says "These guides look in detail at challenging behaviour and are aimed at family carers. Challenging behaviour can put families under great pressure. So, services should support parents and other family carers in their caring role. Also, problems are often caused as much by the way a young person is supported - or not supported - as by their disabilities. People often behave in a "challenging" way if they have problems understanding what's happening around them or communicating what they want or need."</p> <p>To download the guides visit: www.scie.org.uk/publications or www.challengingbehaviour.org.uk</p>
4/26/11	<p>LDHealthNetwork Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk</p>	<p>Grandparents Plus is the national charity (England and Wales) which champions the vital role of grandparents and the wider family in children's lives - especially when they take on the caring role in difficult family circumstances.</p> <p>We have launched a new advice service for grandparents and other family members or friends who have stepped in to bring up a child who is not their own.</p> <p>website: www.grandparentsplus.org.uk/advice</p>
4/26/11	<p>LDHealthNetwork Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk</p>	<p>Report of the National Reference Group on multidisciplinary disability services for children aged 5-18 - Irish Health Repository</p> <p>http://www.lenus.ie/hse/handle/10147/128278 http://www.lenus.ie/hse/bitstream/10147/128278/1/NationalRefGroupMultidiscipDisability.pdf</p>

**Environmental Scan¹ – Relevant News on Disability Issues
(March-April, 2011) (Note: Contains excerpts of copyrighted material.)**

4/28/11	LDHealthNetwork Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk	Comparative Effectiveness of Therapies for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders http://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/index.cfm/search-for-guides-reviews-and-reports/?pageaction=displayproduct&me=1&productID=651 http://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/ehc/products/106/656/CER26_Autism_Report_04-14-2011.pdf
4/28/11	LDHealthNetwork Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk	National Family Carer Network The Network links groups and organisations that support families that include an adult with a learning [intellectual] disability. http://www.familycarers.org.uk/
5/2/11	LDHealthNetwork Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk	Prevention and Social Care for Adults with Learning Disabilities Eric Emerson, Chris Hatton and Janet Robertson http://www.ldhealthnetwork.org.uk/docs/sscr.pdf
5/2/11	LDHealthNetwork Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk	Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities Information for Teachers & Education Professionals http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk/help-information/information-for-teachers/

USA

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
3/3/11	e-clips@hcbs.org Clearinghouse clips	Structured Decision Making Services (SDM®) - Adult Protective Services http://www.hcbs.org/moreInfo.php/nb/doc/3471 Summary: States are developing comprehensive APS systems that include assessments, policies and procedures to assist staff in performing intakes, investigations, and case planning by providing a consistent approach to obtaining and evaluating information. The SDM® system is intended to promote the safety of vulnerable adults, identify and address their needs, decrease the incidence of self-neglect and maltreatment, enhance service delivery, and provide data for program administration. Source: National Council on Crime and Delinquency More Info: http://www.nccd-crc.org/crc/crc/c_sdm_about.html
3/3/11	http://www.appleinsider.com/articles/11/03/03/apple_exploring_advanced_system_for_educating_students_with_disabilities.html	Apple has shown interest in new technology that would make it possible for content to be delivered to multiple users with unique disabilities, dynamically catering to each of their specific needs in a setting like a classroom. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office this week revealed a new patent application from Apple entitled "External Content Transformation." Discovered by AppleInsider, the document describes a method for disseminating content from a host computer in a format tailored to accommodate a user's disability, identified from their client machine.

**Environmental Scan¹ – Relevant News on Disability Issues
(March-April, 2011) (Note: Contains excerpts of copyrighted material.)**

		<p>For example, Apple could dynamically distribute content tailored for relatively simple needs, like larger font sizes or screen sizes. In more advanced examples, content could be re-purposed as synthesized speech in a variety of languages, or in Braille... In Apple's example, a person teaching a class would control a host device, and information would be disseminated out to students' machines in a format that would make it possible for them to receive the lesson. In addition to new formats tailored for specific disabilities, the technology would also be able to comply with custom preferences set by the student, such as certain font styles, spacing, or natural languages.</p> <p>Client devices that could communicate with the host machine include computers, mobile devices like an iPhone or iPad, and Braille output devices, to name a few. A shared conversion engine among the host and client machines would expedite the process of reformatting or re-purposing the content, making it fast and efficient...</p> <p>The disclosure also comes as Apple has touted the ability of its iPad to reach out to disabled users who might struggle with traditional computers. The video, embedded below, was first shown off at Wednesday's iPad 2 unveiling.</p> <p>The iPad was shown in use at the Center for Communication Enhancement at Children's Hospital Boston*, where it has been used to assist children with autism. The video also highlighted how the iPad has been put to use in education, allowing students to interact with content in a new and unique way.</p> <p>http://www.appleinsider.com/articles/11/03/02/apple_announces_ipad_2_with_new_design_faster_a5_processor.html http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HpiVeC1Z3yI&feature=player_embedded</p> <p>*</p> <p>http://www.childrenshospital.org/clinicalservices/Site2224/mainpageS2224P0.html</p>
3/6/11	Disability.gov	<p>Disability.gov's "Other Resources" Web page has information about other federal government websites that offer information about benefits, student loan programs, grants, staying healthy and many other subjects. Here are just a few of the resources you'll find in this section of Disability.gov:</p> <p>https://www.disability.gov/home/other_resources</p> <p>ADA.gov, which has information about the Americans with Disabilities Act, revised ADA rules that take effect on March 15 and an important initiative called Project Civic Access;</p> <p>http://www.ada.gov/ http://www.ada.gov/revised_effective_dates-2010.htm http://www.ada.gov/civicfac.htm</p> <p>Let's Move.gov, an initiative launched by First Lady Michelle Obama to help combat childhood obesity. With spring around the corner, the site's Let's Move Outside section has information about parks and playgrounds the whole family can enjoy;</p> <p>http://www.letsmove.gov/index.php</p>

**Environmental Scan¹ – Relevant News on Disability Issues
(March-April, 2011) (Note: Contains excerpts of copyrighted material.)**

		<p>http://www.letsmove.gov/wheretogo.php National Resource Directory, with resources for Veterans, Service Members and families and caregivers;</p> <p>http://www.nationalresourcedirectory.gov/ http://www.nationalresourcedirectory.gov/family_and_caregiver_support Section508.gov, which explains the requirement that federal government agencies buy electronic and information technology that is accessible to people with disabilities; http://www.section508.gov/</p> <p>National Parks: Accessible to Everyone has information about trails, campgrounds, ranger programs and other opportunities for visitors with disabilities; http://www.nps.gov/pub_aff/access/index.htm</p> <p>Students.gov, which has comprehensive information about campus life and preparing for, and paying for college; http://www.students.gov/STUGOVWebApp/Public http://www.students.gov/STUGOVWebApp/Public?topicID=13&operation=maintopic</p> <p>HealthCare.gov, where you can learn about your health insurance options, preventive services and how the Affordable Care Act is making health care more affordable for people with disabilities and others; http://www.healthcare.gov/index.html http://finder.healthcare.gov/ http://www.healthcare.gov/law/provisions/preventive/index.html http://www.healthcare.gov/foryou/disabilities/index.html</p> <p>Kids.gov, a website where kids can learn about American history, branches of government and find educational games and activities http://www.kids.gov/ http://www.kids.gov/k_5/k_5_fun_activities.shtml e.g.: http://www.nga.gov/kids/zone/3dtwirler.htm</p>
3/6/11	Disability.gov	<p>The VCU Autism Center for Excellence (ACE) http://www.vcuautismcenter.org/index.cfm</p>
3/24/11	http://accan.org.au/	<p>Effects of Stress on the Developing Brain Bruce S. McEwen, PhD., Rockefeller University ... In particular, we now know that early life abuse and neglect have adverse effects upon the developing brain and body that can result in poor self control and emotional regulation, impair cognitive development, and raise the risk of cardiovascular, metabolic and immune system diseases. Yet, new evidence shows that the sensitivity of the developing brain provides an opportunity for improving outcomes, and this is leading to efforts to improve consistency of supportive parental care... Brain development goes through sensitive periods during which stressors and nurturing experiences can have lasting effects, as was shown in the Center for Disease Control Adverse Childhood Experiences Study* carried out on a middle class population in California. And a chart (see below**) from a recent journal study</p>

**Environmental Scan¹ – Relevant News on Disability Issues
(March-April, 2011) (Note: Contains excerpts of copyrighted material.)**

		<p>showing the range of physical, behavioral and mental health disorders is a dramatic demonstration of the power of early life abuse and neglect to affect lifelong behavior and brain and body health. Yet abuse and neglect are the extreme, and so we must define the good and the bad among less obvious influences. Some information comes from animal models as well as studies on children.</p> <p>Animal models have taught us that stressing the mother in pregnancy can alter brain development in the offspring; and that prolonged separation of infant from mother impairs in the newborn other aspects of brain development and function. Furthermore, inconsistent maternal care and maternal anxiety, for example, from food insecurity, produce anxiety in offspring and contribute to the predisposition to diabetes, which itself has adverse effects on the brain...</p> <p>Chaos in the home and inconsistent parenting impairs development of self regulatory behaviors, which can lead to substance abuse, earlier onset of sexual activity, bad decision making and poor mood control. Abuse and neglect also lead to poor health, including poor cardiovascular control and increased inflammation that can have lifelong consequences (chart). Finally, lack of verbal stimulation in the home impairs language development while stress and chaos increase anxiety and impair self regulatory behaviors and lower self esteem...</p> <p>Interventions to reduce adversity and thereby help improve brain and body wellness for children must focus on the family. Programs like Head Start have worked best when the family environment supports the child and the child comes home to a stable and understanding environment. The Perry School Project*** is an example of this combination and has shown a large return on investment not only in earnings and achievement for the individual but also for society in terms of less crime and less need for special education, welfare and greater income tax revenue. Programs like Nurse-Family Partnership provides social support and education for first time mothers and families, and the Harlem Children's Zone Baby College**** provides this type of education in a class for expectant mothers and their partners. Yet we must not give up on those who have suffered the effects of adverse childhood experiences; interventions can help the individual compensate for early life stress, but they require considerable time and effort and further underscore the need for prevention.</p> <p align="center">*</p> <p>http://acestudy.org/files/Review_of_ACE_Study_with_references_summary_table_2_.pdf</p> <p>** http://www.dana.org/uploadedImages/Images/Slide9.jpg</p> <p>*** http://www.highscope.org/Content.asp?ContentId=219</p> <p>**** http://www.hcz.org/programs/early-childhood#baby</p>
--	--	--

**Environmental Scan¹ – Relevant News on Disability Issues
(March-April, 2011) (Note: Contains excerpts of copyrighted material.)**

		<p>Other resources: http://www.dana.org/ Fear in Love Attachment, Abuse, and the Developing Brain http://www.dana.org/news/cerebrum/detail.aspx?id=28926 A rich source of information may be found on the website of National Scientific Council on the Developing Child: http://developingchild.harvard.edu/initiatives/council/ Akers KG, Yang Z, DelVecchio DP, Reeb BC, Romeo RD, et al. 2008. Social competitiveness and plasticity of neuroendocrine function in old age: influence of neonatal novelty exposure and maternal care reliability. PLoS ONE 3(7):e2840 http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0002840 Dobbs, David. The Science of Success. The Atlantic, December, 2009. http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2009/12/the-science-of-success/7761/</p>
3/24/11	http://www.dana.org/	<p>Brain Science and the Law http://dana.org/news/features/detail.aspx?id=31324 Neuroscience findings offer tantalizing clues to our behavior, but in most cases they aren't specific or individual enough to introduce into court. Lawyers, judges, and scientists discussed the present and looked to the future at a recent Law & the Brain forum in New York.</p> <p>The Synapse -- A Primer http://dana.org/media/detail.aspx?id=31294 Brain cells communicate with one another by passing chemical messengers at functional contacts called synapses. Neurobiological studies have demonstrated that synapses play an important role in learning, memory, aging, stress and addiction.</p>
3/24/11	http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/developmental-disabilities-software-developers-pass-cphims-118582884.html	<p>Therap provides web-based documentation, communication and reporting software services to support providers and state organizations working with people with developmental disabilities. Therap's HIPAA, HITECH and ARRA compliant applications are designed to handle the day-to-day needs of direct support professionals, nurses, case managers, supervisory staff and administrators. Therap currently covers individual support with incident reports, medication error reports, behavior tracking, individual service plan creation and goal tracking, health care reports, medication administration records, supported employment, day/shift notes and personal finance records among others. Therap also provides a variety of staff support modules including employee training management system and work scheduling. It also provides effective billing support with service authorizations, attendance and professional claim tracking options. SOURCE Therap Services, LLC http://www.therapservices.net</p>

**Environmental Scan¹ – Relevant News on Disability Issues
(March-April, 2011) (Note: Contains excerpts of copyrighted material.)**

3/24/11	http://appmodo.com/47865/new-ipad-app-onevoice-gives-a-voice-to-people-with-speech-disabilities/	<p>OneVoice, the latest technology in augmented communication devices, is available today for download for the iPad from the Apple App Store for \$199.99. OneVoice for the iPad is designed by Legend, a Boise-based software design company. The application allows people with communication disabilities, such as stroke or traumatic brain injury, autism, cerebral palsy, intellectual impairment, Parkinson's disease, or multiple sclerosis, to "speak" by selecting icons and phrases to be read by the device.</p> <p>OneVoice represents an impressive leap forward in design and ease of use. Using the iPad touchscreen, the user communicates by building simple phrases and sentences. Users of any age or ability can communicate through its intuitive navigation system and customizable interface. Far simpler and easier to use than other augmented communication devices, OneVoice offers a number of outstanding features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Highly portable, pre-configured and requires no training * Features over 100 custom made icons and expressive emoticons * Easily customizable for additional vocabulary with drag and drop organization of words and categories * Users can control voice speed and choose male or female speaking gender * Users can upload personal photos and customizable icons * A full keyboard for typing is available with one simple click * Simple, focused application. Users won't get lost in many levels of categories and be unable to find their way back <p>http://thinklegend.com/ http://thinklegend.com/OneVoice/ http://itunes.apple.com/app/id412448074</p>
3/30/11	Resources for MN Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities	<p>Web Sites</p> <p>There are countless resources available to advocates looking for advice, facts and figures and other information.</p> <p>http://www.partnersinpolycymaking.com/resources.html</p>
3/30/11	http://www.ncwd-youth.info/ NCWD/Youth Intersections	<p>Internship Guide for Youth Released by National Consortium on Leadership & Disability for Youth</p> <p>Completing an internship is an ideal way for young people with and without disabilities to prepare for their career field of choice. In its most recent publication, Internships: The On-Ramp to Employment, A Guide for Students with Disabilities to Getting and Making the Most of an Internship, the National Consortium on Leadership & Disability for Youth (NCLD/Y) guides young people through the step-by-step process of finding, applying for, participating in, and even evaluating an internship. With tools necessary to maintain a competitive advantage over fellow job seekers, this guide leads young people through activities focused on career exploration, interview and resume building, goal setting, networking, and more to prepare them to successfully complete an internship and transition toward employment. In addition, the guide includes information and tips of specific</p>

**Environmental Scan¹ – Relevant News on Disability Issues
(March-April, 2011) (Note: Contains excerpts of copyrighted material.)**

		<p>relevance to youth with disabilities, including finding accessible housing, navigating the transportation system, disclosing a disability, and employing a personal care attendant. http://nclcd-youth.info/Downloads/intern-guide-final.pdf</p> <p>Disability Knowledge and Identity Self-Assessment Based on feedback from members of the Independent Living Community, NCLD/Y has produced both print and web versions of The Disability History and Identity Self-Assessment, and Answer Key. This self-assessment was adapted for programs empowering youth with disabilities through the use of the history of the disability rights movement to find out what students know already, what they want to know more about, and includes a short section where a young person can discuss their personal experiences living with a disability. Written by young people with disabilities and grounded in the five areas of youth development and leadership, this tool is not only sure to be an enjoyable exercise for youth in your program, but also adult staff!</p> <p>Download Disability Knowledge and Identity Self-Assessment: http://www.nclcd-youth.info/Downloads/disability_knowledge_self-assmt_-_final.pdf</p> <p>Download Disability Knowledge and Identity Self-Assessment - Answer Key: http://www.nclcd-youth.info/Downloads/disability_knowledge_self-assmt_-_key--_final.pdf</p> <p>National TA Center for Employers Launches AskEARN.org</p> <p>The National Employer Technical Assistance Center has launched a new website, www.AskeARN.org, a one-stop resource for employers seeking to recruit, hire, and retain qualified employees with disabilities. The new site is an employer resource provided by the Employer Assistance and Resource Network (EARN). The National Employer Technical Assistance Center is funded by a cooperative agreement from the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) to Cornell University. http://www.askearn.org/</p> <p>Online resources and information cover the following topics: recruitment and hiring, return to work, talent management, workplace accessibility, and culture. The site also lists events such as conferences and trainings, and links to the EARN newsletter and the Business Case, which features employers discussing their experiences related to and the benefits associated with hiring and retaining workers with disabilities. Businesses can also find a link to the Workforce Recruitment Program, a job matching service that draws from a database of more than 2,200</p>
--	--	---

**Environmental Scan¹ – Relevant News on Disability Issues
(March-April, 2011) (Note: Contains excerpts of copyrighted material.)**

		<p>pre-screened, qualified students and recent graduates with disabilities seeking summer internships and/or permanent employment. http://www.dol.gov/odep/programs/workforc.htm</p> <p>HHS Children's Bureau Releases New Resource Guide on Strengthening Families and Communities The Strengthening Families and Communities: 2011 Resource Guide is now available from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Children's Bureau, Office on Child Abuse and Neglect, its Child Welfare Information Gateway, the FRIENDS National Resource Center for Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention and the Center for the Study of Social Policy-Strengthening Families. This resource guide was created to support service providers in their work with parents, caregivers, and their children to strengthen families and prevent child abuse and neglect. The guide focuses on five important factors that have been shown to protect children from the risk of abuse and neglect. Information about these protective factors is augmented with tools and strategies for integrating these factors into existing community programs and systems. With input from numerous national organizations, Federal partners, and parents committed to strengthening families and communities, the guide provides many suggestions to help communities "get prevention right." http://www.childwelfare.gov/preventing/preventionmonth/guide2011/</p> <p>ADA National Network Launches Disability Rights Course The ADA National Network recently launched a free, self-paced web course on federal disability rights laws. The course takes between 90 and 120 minutes to complete and has been approved to provide two continuing education clock hour credits from the Commission on Rehabilitation Councilor Certification. Learn more at www.disabilityrightscourse.org</p>
4/1/11	Newest Items on the National Institute of Mental Health Website	<p>Highlights in Autism Progress -- for April, Autism Awareness Month See http://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/director/2011/highlights-in-autism-progress-for-april-autism-awareness-month.shtml New Findings Reveal New Worlds In Neuroscience http://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/director/2011/new-findings-reveal-new-worlds-in-neuroscience.shtml</p>
4/1/11	Newest Items on the National Institute of Mental Health Website	<p>Suicide in America: Frequently Asked Questions A brief overview of the statistics on depression and suicide with information on depression treatments and suicide prevention</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Suicide in America ▪ Who is at risk for suicide? ▪ What about gender? ▪ What about children? ▪ What about older adults? ▪ What about different ethnic groups?

**Environmental Scan¹ – Relevant News on Disability Issues
(March-April, 2011) (Note: Contains excerpts of copyrighted material.)**

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can suicide be prevented What should I do if someone I know is considering suicide? If you are in crisis http://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/publications/suicide-in-america/suicide-in-america-frequently-asked-questions.shtml
4/1/11	Disability.gov	<p>Employment-Supportive Personal Assistance Services (E-PAS) Facilitate Employment of Persons with Serious Physical and Mental Disabilities http://blog.govdelivery.com/usodep/2011/04/employment-supportive-personal-assistance-services-e-pas-facilitate-employment-of-persons-with-serio.html</p> <p>Visit the websites of the Center for Personal Assistance Services - http://www.pascenter.org/home/index.php - , the Job Accommodation Network - http://askjan.org/topics/persassist.htm - or Disability.gov - https://www.disability.gov/community_life/independent_living/personal_assistance_services - to learn more about personal assistance services and other types of workplace accommodations.</p>
4/1/11	Disability.gov	<p>New Web-based Program Helps Youth with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Learn Job Skills http://www.nimh.nih.gov/science-news/2011/recovery-act-funded-jobs-program-helps-high-school-grads-who-have-asd.shtml</p>
4/8/11	http://www.upi.com/Science_News/2011/04/08/Software-helps-disabled-use-computer-mouse/UPI-34571302305021/	<p>U.S. computer scientists say a free software program can help people with motor disabilities who have trouble using a computer mouse.</p> <p>The Pointing Magnifier*, developed by researchers at the University of Washington, combines a large area cursor with visual and motor magnification, reducing need for fine, precise pointing, a university release said Friday.</p> <p>Running on Windows, the software replaces the normal cursor with a large, circular cursor the user places over the target area of the screen and then clicks. The Pointing Magnifier then magnifies everything under that circular area until it fills the screen, making even tiny targets large. The user then clicks with a point cursor inside that magnified area, acquiring the target...</p> <p>* http://www.softpedia.com/get/Desktop-Enhancements/Other-Desktop-Enhancements/Pointing-Magnifier.shtml</p>
4/10/11	Disability.gov	<p>Future Care Planning - A Roadmap for Family Caregivers Offers guidance and a planning process for family caregivers on how to care for a person with developmental disabilities. The guide has information about financial and legal issues and "10 Tips for Family Caregivers." For more information visit https://www.disability.gov/health/caregiver/%26_provider_resources/caregivers http://sonoranucedd.fcm.arizona.edu/sites/sonoranucedd.fcm.arizona.edu/files/CAREGIVING_Roadmap_021010.pdf http://sonoranucedd.fcm.arizona.edu/</p>

**Environmental Scan¹ – Relevant News on Disability Issues
(March-April, 2011) (Note: Contains excerpts of copyrighted material.)**

4/14/11	e-clips@hcbs.org Clearinghouse clips	<p>Family Caregiving 2010: Year in Review http://www.hcbs.org/moreInfo.php/nb/doc/3560 Summary: In honor of the upcoming one-year anniversary of the Affordable Care Act, Family Caregiver Alliance releases this guide which highlights some of the most important developments in 2010 affecting family caregivers, including legislative and policy changes; research focused on caregivers; and media coverage of family caregiving. A great resource for families, researchers, policymakers, and others. Source: Family Caregiver Alliance http://www.hcbs.org/files/204/10168/Report.pdf http://caregiver.org/caregiver/jsp/content_node.jsp?nodeid=2324&chcategory=43&chitem=599 http://caregiver.org/caregiver/jsp/content/pdfs/2010-Caregiver-Guide.pdf</p>
4/14/11	e-clips@hcbs.org Clearinghouse clips	<p>National Clearinghouse for Long-Term Care Information - Website http://www.hcbs.org/moreInfo.php/nb/doc/3478 Summary: Looking for information and resources to help families plan for future long-term care? Explore this web site, developed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, geared toward helping individuals review their options before making decisions. It is primarily intended as a planning resource for individuals who don't yet require long-term care, but includes information on services and financing options that can be helpful to all. http://www.longtermcare.gov/LTC/Main_Site/Site_Uilities/Content.aspx [site works best in Internet Explorer]</p>
4/15/11	Newest Items on the National Institute of Mental Health Website	<p>NIMH Workshop on Child Maltreatment and Trauma: Integrating Biological, Cognitive, and Social Trajectories of Development August 04, 2010 – August 05, 2010 Bethesda, Maryland Sponsored by: National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) http://www.nimh.nih.gov/research-funding/scientific-meetings/2010/child-maltreatment-and-trauma/index.shtml Depression and High School Students Answers to students' frequently asked questions about depression. http://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/publications/depression-and-high-school-students/depression-and-high-school-students.shtml</p>
4/26/11	http://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20110426005732/en/GPS-Tracking-Bracelet-Revolutionizes-Healthcare-Industry-%E2%80%93	<p>Adiant Solutions, a leading distributor of GPS safety and tracking solutions, today announced that its S-911 tracking bracelet is generally available and families and caregivers of those with cognitive disorders can now rest easier knowing that their loved ones are wearing the only tracking bracelet that offers true real-time tracking with accuracy up-to-the-second and within several feet 24/7/365.</p>

**Environmental Scan¹ – Relevant News on Disability Issues
(March-April, 2011) (Note: Contains excerpts of copyrighted material.)**

		<p>In addition to having the only true real-time tracking function, the S-911 is the only bracelet on the market that features customer controlled geo-fencing, two-way communication with automatic answering after three rings, a G-force sensor alert to detect falls, a speed sensor, a panic button in case of emergency and a watch. All of this is contained in the small wristwatch style bracelet...</p> <p>Founded in 2010, Adiant Solutions has emerged as an industry leader in the sale and distribution of GPS devices that protect people in their homes and preserve their dignity, independence and resources. The company touts a growing roster of blue chip clients. For more information, please visit www.adiant-solutions.com</p>
4/28/11	e-clips@hcbs.org Clearinghouse clips	<p>Center for Excellence in Assisted Living Clearinghouse http://www.hcbs.org/moreInfo.php/nb/doc/3580</p> <p>Summary: In one stop, use this national resource to find important information regarding assisted living. Resources include research findings and outcomes, exemplary assisted living practices, measures, and public policies and programs, consumer materials, links to relevant websites, international documents and abstracts, media articles, training and education materials, expert opinion pieces, and more. http://www.theceal.org/about.php</p>
4/28/11	e-clips@hcbs.org Clearinghouse clips	<p>e-Connected Family Caregiver: Bringing Caregiving into the 21st Century http://www.hcbs.org/moreInfo.php/nb/doc/3573</p> <p>Summary: In November 2010, UnitedHealthcare and the National Alliance for Caregiving conducted a study in order to better understand how family caregivers use home technologies in order to assist them in caring for their loved ones while allowing them to remain independent. Explore the study's key findings in order to learn more about 12 particular technologies that have been found to be helpful, perceived barriers to using technology, and influencing factors on family's use of technology. http://www.caregiving.org/data/Fact_Sheet_eConnected_Family_Caregiver_Study.pdf http://www.caregiving.org/</p>
5/4/11	Disability Research Listserv	<p>ZoomText Magnifier/Reader http://www.aisquared.com/zoomtext</p>
5/7/11	Disability Research Listserv	<p>Disability History Museum Launches New Website http://www.disabilitymuseum.org/dhm/index.html</p> <p>The Disability History Museum (DHM), whose mission is to foster a deeper understanding about how changing cultural values, notions of identity, laws and policies have shaped and influenced the experience of people with disabilities, their families and their communities over time, has just launched a new website</p> <p>Originally established in 2000, this website's second iteration</p>

**Environmental Scan¹ – Relevant News on Disability Issues
(March-April, 2011) (Note: Contains excerpts of copyrighted material.)**

		<p>better meets the needs of today's researcher with new graphics, improved navigation and functionality.</p> <p>The DHM aims to provide all site visitors, people with and without disabilities, researchers, teachers and students, with a wide array of tools to help deepen their understanding of human variation and difference, and to expand appreciation of how vital to our common life the experiences of people with disabilities have always been.</p>
--	--	---

Other International

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
1/25/11	<p>Pier Professional http://www.pierprofessional.com/</p>	<p>all Pier Professional journal articles are now available to rent for a 24 hour period for just \$0.99 (equivalent to c. £0.65), via our new partner DeepDyve.</p> <p>Click here to rent articles now. http://www.deepdyve.com/browse/publishers/pier-professional</p> <p>The service allows users to read, but not download or print, the full text of an article. It also incorporates an unique search tool. See details at: http://www.deepdyve.com/how-it-works http://www.deepdyve.com/</p> <p>Other journals listed here: http://www.deepdyve.com/browse/journals</p>
3/2/11	<p>http://www.columbiatribune.com/news/2011/mar/02/locked-in-patients-find-contentment/</p>	<p>Locked-in patients find contentment</p> <p>Low number in study report feeling suicidal.</p> <p>You are awake, aware and probably unable to move or talk — but you are not necessarily unhappy, says the largest study of locked-in syndrome ever conducted.</p> <p>A surprising number of patients with the condition say they are happy despite being paralyzed and having to communicate mainly by moving their eyes. Most cases are caused by major brain damage, often suffered in traumatic accidents.</p> <p>As part of the study — published in the online journal BMJ Open* last Wednesday, Steven Laureys of the Coma Science Group at the University Hospital of Liege in Belgium and colleagues sent questionnaires to 168 members of the French Association for Locked-in Syndrome, asking them about their medical history, their emotional state and views on euthanasia. Sixty-five patients used a scale to indicate their sense of well-being, with 47 saying they were happy and 18 unhappy. They were also asked a variety of questions about their lives, including their ability to get around or participate in social functions, or if they had ever considered euthanasia.</p> <p>Only a handful of patients said they often had suicidal thoughts. The patients responded to questions largely by blinking...</p> <p>Previous research shows people with extreme disabilities can be happy in what is known as “the disability paradox,” meaning even people who have a very limited daily existence report being</p>

**Environmental Scan¹ – Relevant News on Disability Issues
(March-April, 2011) (Note: Contains excerpts of copyrighted material.)**

		<p>happy. Tom McMillan, a professor of clinical neuropsychology at the University of Glasgow, said it wasn't surprising this also appeared to be the case for people with locked-in syndrome. In previous cases, McMillan has found some of these patients were happy, had a sense of humor and wanted to live despite previous court applications to withdraw life support...</p> <p>* http://bmjopen.bmj.com/ A survey on self-assessed well-being in a cohort of chronic locked-in syndrome patients: happy majority, miserable minority http://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/early/2011/02/16/bmjopen-2010-000039.short?q=w_open_current_tab http://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/early/2011/02/16/bmjopen-2010-000039.full.pdf Correspondence to Professor Steven Laureys; steven.laureys@ulg.ac.be</p>
4/7/11	Gladnet	<p>Issue 1 of WWDA News for 2011 - the quarterly Newsletter from Women With Disabilities Australia (WWDA) http://www.wwda.org.au/bulletin.htm http://www.wwda.org.au/wwdanews0111.pdf</p>
4/7/11	http://www.robotautomation.com.au/news/medical-robot-helps-paraplegics-to-walk-again	<p>Argo Medical Technologies* has created the world's first exoskeleton to help paraplegic individuals to walk again. The new ReWalk robot "enables wheelchair users with lower-limb disabilities to stand, walk, and even climb stairs," says the company's website. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V9Bku_YZu3A * http://www.argomedtec.com/</p>
4/12/11	Gladnet	<p>Global Disability Rights Library (GDRL) project. http://www.usicd.org/index.cfm/downloads The goal of the GDRL project is to improve the lives of persons with disabilities in developing countries. The project uses an innovative "internet in a box" technology to deliver digital resources to people beyond the reach of the internet. http://www.usicd.org</p>
4/19/11	Gladnet	<p>Source is an international information support centre designed to strengthen the management, use and impact of information on health and disability. To search the full collection, please visit: www.asksource.info Source is now a purely electronic resource centre. This means that all of the resources can now be accessed free online from anywhere in the world.</p>

**Environmental Scan¹ – Relevant News on Disability Issues
(March-April, 2011) (Note: Contains excerpts of copyrighted material.)**

4/21/11	Gladnet	<p>The third film in the "What's disability to me?" series, promoting the forthcoming launch of the World report on disability, is now live on YouTube http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E_2ZEwhh9WQ In the film we meet Mia, a woman with intellectual disability from Lebanon, who talks about discrimination in education, and the importance of self advocacy. The film was produced by Jazz Shaban, and the production was funded by the Government of Australia and CBM. The World report on disability will be launched on 9 June 2011 in New York. On behalf of Disability and Rehabilitation Team Department of Violence and Injury Prevention and Disability World Health Organization http://www.who.int/disabilities/en/</p>
---------	---------	---