

**Environmental Scan¹ – Relevant News on Disability Issues
(January, 2010)**

International Issues

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
		<i>no relevant news alerts for this time period</i>

Canada

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
1/11/10	http://www.vancouversun.com/opinion/Internet+medical+tool/2430789/story.html	The Internet as a medical tool Canada's Centre for Addiction and Mental Health has come up with an innovative and simple way to encourage problem drinkers to reduce their alcohol consumption. The online screening questionnaire www.CheckYourDrinking.net has helped some problem drinkers reduce their alcohol consumption by a significant 30 per cent, a recent evaluation showed. More promising is that those drinkers maintained the reduction in three-month and six-month followups...
1/17/10	http://www.decaturdaily.com/detail/51590.html	“Here’s the Deal Don’t Touch Me” is a brilliant, sensitive, and in-depth first-person account of Obsessive Compulsive Behavior and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. When looking at the definition of these ailments, Mandels’ photo should be attached. “OCD is an anxiety disorder and is characterized by recurrent, unwanted thoughts (obsessions) or repetitive behaviors (compulsions). ADHD is characterized by an inability to focus, control impulsive behavior and being easily distracted. Both of these result in repetitive behaviors such as hand washing, counting, checking or cleaning.” From his early childhood with plastic covering their furniture and surfaces of the floor, to spending time with his grandmother, who waxed the concrete leading to her house, we are introduced to an extraordinary person who daily faces debilitating challenges and continues to thrive. After reading all of the things Mandel confronts, his accomplishments are literally astounding... http://www.howiemandel.com/store.html
1/19/10	http://www.findingdulcinea.com/news/health/2010/jan/Concussion-or-Brain-Injury--Both-Are-Serious.html	A new study found that whether a child is diagnosed with a concussion or a brain injury makes a big difference in how serious the injury is perceived to be... The study, published in the journal Pediatrics, examined almost 270 children that were admitted to a hospital in Ontario, Canada, after a head injury. One-third of the kids were diagnosed with a concussion and the rest were labeled with some variation of traumatic brain injury (TBI). Those diagnosed with a concussion were 1 and a half times as likely to be discharged from the hospital in the days following their injuries as compared with those diagnosed with “mild TBI,” Healy writes, “even though there was significant overlap between the two groups in terms of the severity of their head injuries.” The kids diagnosed with

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		<p>concussions were also 2 and a half times more likely to return to school early.</p> <p>“Our study suggests that if a child is given a diagnosis of a concussion, the family is less likely to consider it an actual injury to the brain,” Carol DeMatteo, an occupational therapist and childhood disability researcher at McMaster University, and the study’s lead author, said in a news release. “These children may be sent back to school or allowed to return to activity sooner, and maybe sooner than they should. This puts them at greater risk for a second injury, poor school performance, and wondering what is wrong with them.”...</p> <p>Over the last several years, there has been more focus on concussions—particular in children. Research has found that young brains don’t recover from concussion as quickly as previously thought. According to Mike Wilson, writing for The Oregonian, the headache and disorientation commonly associated with a concussion may disappear in as little as 15 minutes. But even 36 hours later, “75 percent of those with concussions still have problems with memory and cognition,” Wilson writes...</p> <p>“Generally speaking, the medical profession does not do a very good job in recognizing that female athletes sustain concussions at an equal or even higher rate as males,” Dr. Robert Cantu of Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston, told The New York Times. “It’s flying under the radar. And as a result, looking for concussions in women is not pursued with the same diligence, and it’s setting girls up for a worse result.”...</p> <p>Long after a concussion is supposed to have healed, memory and emotional problems can persist. Researchers are finding that a condition called post-concussion syndrome (PCS) can affect between 30 and 80 percent of people that get concussions each year. PCS can last for months and impact memory, balance and concentration...</p> <p>WebMD presents a complete overview of concussions, explaining what they are, what causes them, symptoms, and how they are diagnosed and treated. http://www.webmd.com/</p> <p>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has more specific information for concussion and high school sports. Find information for athletes, coaches and parents. http://www.cdc.gov/</p> <p>PEDIATRICS Vol. 125 No. 2 February 2010, pp. 327-334 "My Child Doesn't Have a Brain Injury, He Only Has a Concussion" http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/cgi/content/abstract/125/2/327</p>
1/22/10	http://www.revuegouvernement.ca/index.php?article_id=70&page_id=45&lang_id=1&&	<p>Re-examining the Rhetoric of Public Management Reform from a Critical Management Studies Perspective Vol.6, Issue 2, January 2010, Page 14 Joshua Jebuntie Zaato Introduction Public management has been described variously by scholars, as</p>

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		<p>an art, a science, a profession and a quasi-religious movement (Lynn, 1996; Hood, 2005). These conceptualizations and descriptions can be classified as conventional, mainstream or traditional definitions.¹ Hence, these descriptions represent conventional thinking, practice and research, and in the process, present public management as an objective, rational and scientific activity and discipline. These definitions and generally taken for granted classifications have however come under severe scrutiny and criticism from what might be termed unconventional scholars described as critical management scholars. Critical management scholars describe the conventional definition, ethos and locus of public management as unidirectional, one-sided and pro status-quo (Parker, 2002; Alvesson and Willmott, 1996). Such scholars therefore call for a radical rethinking of the knowledge, practice and research of the discipline. In other words, these scholars advocate a re-focusing and re-characterization of the locus and ethos of public management to better reflect reality and embrace the normative and political aspects of public management... (Free Registration required for full access.) http://www.revuegouvernance.ca/index.php</p>
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Provinces

British Columbia

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
1/1/10	http://www2.dose.ca/scripts/story.html?id=2397344	<p>VANCOUVER -- John Oltoff still has trouble walking or holding a cup of coffee after suffering a stroke that essentially paralyzed the left side of his body three years ago. But he's making great strides with the help of an experimental deep-brain stimulation technique being pioneered by behavioural neuroscientist Lara Boyd, an assistant professor and researcher at the University of British Columbia's Brain Research Centre... Driving Oltoff's improvement is Boyd's experimental transcranial magnetic stimulation, her so-called magic wand. TMS is being tested in two ways, either to stimulate neural activity in the area of stroke damage or to coax the healthy side of the brain to slacken its natural tendency to suppress activity on the damaged side. Oltoff is receiving the latter treatment in Boyd's study. To excite the brain the TMS is set to a higher frequency, about five pulses per second, which causes production of a chemical that the brain uses to raise excitation called glutamate. To slow neural activity they run at one pulse per second, which stimulates another neurotransmitter associated with suppressed brain activity, called GABA. "In effect we turned down the healthy side's ability to inhibit the damaged side," Boyd explained. After the brain stimulation, the brain is "primed" to learn new things. Boyd combines TMS with physical therapy, telling the</p>

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		<p>brain what abilities to rewire with that new-found energy. The window of neural excitation lasts from 30 to 60 minutes. Combining TMS with physical therapy amplifies the effectiveness of the therapy...</p> <p>Not only did the deep-brain stimulation turbo-charge Oltoff's physical therapy, it roused him from a cloudy slumber. "It woke me up," he said. "After my stroke, time changed, time wasn't what it used to be, a day would fly by and it wouldn't register as a day."</p> <p>It was as if a part of his brain that had been asleep was switched on, he said.</p> <p>"Time began to mean something again."</p> <p>Patients often say they feel generally better and more alert after TMS, Boyd said. It is being tested as a treatment of last recourse for depression...</p> <p>http://www.physicaltherapy.med.ubc.ca/faculty_staff/faculty_staff_directory/faculty_directory/Lara_Boyd.htm</p>
1/26/10	<p>http://www.time.com/time/health/article/0,8599,1956619,00.html?xid=rss-topstories</p> <p>http://www.insidermedicine.ca/archives/INSIDERMEDICINE_VIDEO_Exercise_Beneficial_for_Healthy_Aging_4044.aspx</p>	<p>a series of independently conducted studies on the effects of exercise in healthy older adults, published on Monday in the Archives of Internal Medicine*, confirms that logging time at the gym not only helps maintain good health but may even prevent the onset of chronic diseases, such as heart disease, osteoarthritis and dementia.</p> <p>In one surprising trial, researchers led by Dr. Teresa Liu-Ambrose** at the University of British Columbia randomly assigned 155 aging women to three separate groups and directly compared the cognitive effects of two types of exercise: resistance training, done once or twice weekly, in which participants worked out with free weights and weight machines and did squats and lunges, versus toning and balance exercises, which participants did twice a week.</p> <p>By the end of the yearlong study, the women who weight-trained saw an improvement in their performance on cognitive tests of memory and learning as well as in executive functions such as decision-making and conflict resolution — women who trained once a week improved their scores in executive functioning by 12.6% — while those who did balance and toning exercises showed no such improvement. The muscle-strengthening exercise also helped the volunteers, ages 65 to 75, boost their walking speed, a commonly used indicator of overall health status in the elderly, as faster pace has been linked with lower mortality...</p> <p>In a second brain-function study, published in the same journal, scientists in Germany found that increased physical activity was associated with a lower incidence of dementia. In this study, researchers recruited 3,485 elderly residents in Bavaria and asked them about their physical activity. None of the participants had dementia at the start of the analysis, but after two years of follow-up, researchers found that those who exercised at least three times a week were half as likely to have developed dementia, compared with the people who reported no physical</p>

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		<p>activity. Based on his results, says lead author Dr. Thorleif Etgen***, a professor of psychiatry and psychotherapy at München University, "it doesn't make a big difference if you have moderate or high physical activity. The important message is that you do any activity. And even if you start late in life, at 60 or 70, there is a benefit, for it's never too late to start exercising." The key words are "moderate or high," according to another study that was published on Monday in the Archives. Dr. Qi Sun, a researcher at Harvard School of Public Health, analyzed 13,000 women participating in the Nurses' Health Study and found that when it came to exercise, more was better. Compared with women who jogged for 20 minutes a week, those who jogged three hours a week or walked briskly for five hours a week were 76% more likely to age successfully, free of chronic illnesses such as cancer and heart disease, as well as mental and physical impairment...</p> <p>* http://archinte.ama-assn.org/content/vol170/issue2/index.dtl ** http://archinte.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/abstract/170/2/170 *** http://archinte.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/abstract/170/2/186 **** http://archinte.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/abstract/170/2/194</p>
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Alberta

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Saskatchewan

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
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Manitoba

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
		<i>no relevant news alerts for this time period</i>

Ontario

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
1/26/10	http://www.mondaq.com/canada/article.asp?articleid=92812	<p>As of January 1, 2010, many public sector organizations in Ontario must be compliant with the "Accessibility Standards for Customer Service"*, a regulation enacted under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005**. The "designated public sector organizations" that must comply with the regulation include universities, hospitals, public transportation organizations, and various designated provincial boards, commissions, authorities and agencies.</p> <p>While designated public sector organizations are the first organizations required to be compliant with the Accessibility Standards for Customer Service, private businesses, non-profit organizations and other service providers with at least one employee must become compliant by January 1, 2012...</p>

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		<p>*http://www.mcass.gov.on.ca/en/mcass/programs/accessibility/ComplyingStandards/index.aspx http://www.mcass.gov.on.ca/NR/rdonlyres/6B812F75-88E4-4731-9BA0-7F9FE01F70BD/1898/SummaryofRequirementsJAN172008EN.pdf http://preview.tinyurl.com/ydubzwn http://tinyurl.com/ydubzwn ** http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/source/regs/english/2007/elaws_src_regs_r07429_e.htm</p>
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Quebec

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New Brunswick

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
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Nova Scotia

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
1/11/10	http://www.upi.com/Health_News/2010/01/11/Kid-psychological-debriefing-may-not-help/UPI-34921263235759/	<p>There is no evidence to support psychological debriefing in schools after violence, suicides and accidental death is effective, Canadian researchers said.</p> <p>Magdalena Szumilas of Dalhousie University and co-authors said there is little research on the effectiveness and safety of these interventions in schools but "the evidence clearly points to the ineffectiveness of these interventions in preventing post-traumatic stress disorder or any other psychiatric disorder in adults."</p> <p>Recent systematic reviews indicate psychological debriefing of adults does not prevent post-traumatic stress disorder and it may even increase the risk of this disorder, Szumilas said.</p> <p>The researchers urge psychological debriefing not be performed after traumatic incidents in schools and say more research is needed to assess psychological and mental health interventions prior to implementation in schools.</p> <p>Two programs -- based on the empirically-supported principles of engendering feelings of safety, calmness, sense of self and community efficacy, connectedness and hope -- show promise while providing "psychological first aid" immediately after an incident may also be helpful, Szumilas said.</p> <p>The findings were published in the Canadian Medical Association Journal. http://www.cmaj.ca/ CMAJ. 2010 Jan 4. Psychological debriefing in schools. Szumilas M, Wei Y, Kutcher S.</p>

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		http://www.cmaj.ca/cgi/content/citation/cmaj.091621v1 Also see: http://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/the-open-mind/201001/when-counseling-is-dangerous-0 When Counseling is Dangerous Psychological debriefing after disasters may do more harm than good. Published on January 19, 2010
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Newfoundland

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Prince Edward Island

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
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Territories

Nunavut

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
		<i>no relevant news alerts for this time period</i>

NWT

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
		<i>no relevant news alerts for this time period</i>

Yukon

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
		<i>no relevant news alerts for this time period</i>

Other Countries

Australia

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
1/15/10	http://www.smh.com.au/life-style/wellbeing/unhealthy-diet-could-fuel-depression-in-women-20100115-mbss.html http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE60D02J20100114 http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/715239 http://www.fwdailynews.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=6527:Study-links-depression-with-fatty-sugary-diet&catid=100:terry-gaff&Itemid=136	Women who suffer from depression and anxiety may want to take a look at their diet as a possible contributor to these conditions, study findings suggest. Researchers from the University of Melbourne found that mood disorders were more common among women aged 20 to 93 who, over 10 years, ate primarily processed, refined, high-fat foods... http://ajp.psychiatryonline.org/cgi/content/abstract/167/3/305?maxtoshow=&hits=10&RESULTFORMAT=&fulltext=Jacka+&searchid=1&FIRSTINDEX=0&sortspec=relevance&resource-type=HWCIT http://tinyurl.com/39577hk http://preview.tinyurl.com/39577hk

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1/25/10	http://prmac.com/release-id-10301.htm	<p>Technology is rapidly increasing the options for delivery of mental health services. The use of software, online interventions and light-weight tools promotes collaboration between patients, caregivers, medical professionals, and other stakeholders. With the emphasis in healthcare moving towards preventative care, effective computer based technologies are ideal for delivering low cost treatments.</p> <p>In this context, mental health software company Optimism Apps is pleased to announce version 3.2 of Optimism, its popular mood chart and health planning application. At its core Optimism helps a person to monitor the triggers and warning signs of a decline in their mental health, and develop strategies that help them to remain well. Database fields can be customized to be very specific to the individual's circumstances.</p> <p>Charts and reports help to discover interactions between the things being monitored, which assists in developing a long-term health plan. This plan is dynamic. With the benefit of a continual feedback loop, the individual can gain a better understanding of these interactions and continually improve on their health strategies.</p> <p>In version 3.2 Optimism Apps has continued to develop the charts to improve the contextual information available. Users can now view their journal notes in a pop-up window for any day on a visible chart. This helps with recall and making connections between recorded data and notes. The upgrade also includes an automatic launch function, prompting users to record their entries each day at a time of their choosing.</p> <p>Pricing and Availability: Optimism is available for OS X 10.3 or later as a Universal Build. A single license costs \$39.95 (USD), but there is currently a 10% discount at the checkout available to all buyers. All future upgrades are free.</p> <p>Optimism 3.2 http://www.findingoptimism.com/</p> <p>Optimism Apps Pty Ltd is a Sydney based company founded by James Bishop in 2007. Its software and online applications have been sold to mental health professionals and individuals in over 50 countries on all continents. The applications are now being deployed in co-branded and fully-branded forms, to organizations in North America, Europe and South East Asia.</p>
1/28/10	http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/716067	<p>Current body mass index (BMI) thresholds for overweight and obesity may be overly restrictive for older people, according to the authors of a cohort study published online January 27 and in the February print edition of the Journal of the American Geriatrics Society...</p> <p>Overweight participants had lowest mortality risk, with risk for death for overweight participants 13% less than for normal-weight participants (hazard ratio [HR], 0.87; 95% confidence interval [CI], 0.78 - 0.94). Obese and normal-weight participants had similar risk for death (HR, 0.98; 95% CI, 0.85 - 1.11).</p> <p>Across all levels of BMI, being sedentary doubled the mortality</p>

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		<p>risk for women (HR, 2.08; 95% CI, 1.79 - 2.41) but was associated with only a 28% greater risk for men (HR, 1.28; 95% CI, 1.14 - 1.44)...</p> <p>"A greater risk was found for extreme obesity," the study authors conclude. "Mortality risk must be balanced by the potential loss of physical function associated with obesity.... Overweight older people are not at greater mortality risk, and there is little evidence that dieting in this age group confers any benefit; these findings are consistent with the hypothesis that weight loss is harmful."</p> <p>Leon Flicker, PhD, from the University of Western Australia in Perth</p> <p>Body Mass Index and Survival in Men and Women Aged 70 to 75 (p 234-241)</p> <p>Leon Flicker, Kieran A. McCaul, Graeme J. Hankey, Konrad Jamrozik, Wendy J. Brown, Julie E. Byles, Osvaldo P. Almeida http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/journal/123265340/abstract</p>
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Ireland (includes Northern Ireland)

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
		<i>no relevant news alerts for this time period</i>

New Zealand

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
		<i>no relevant news alerts for this time period</i>

Scotland

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
1/26/10	http://www.nursinginpractice.com/default.asp?title=Prejudice%22hampersmentalhealth%22&page=article.display&article.id=20161	<p>A study by NHS Health Scotland has found that people who experience prejudice are more likely to suffer poor mental health. The Dimensions Of Diversity report set out to produce a snapshot of the country by identifying population groups and their key health issues, and the results showed that prejudice affected people in the same way, whatever their background. The study examined the experiences of different sections of society, including gay people, disabled people, asylum seekers and those from ethnic minorities, and found that "Scotland is still home to deeply rooted prejudice based on fear, perhaps even dislike, of difference".</p> <p>The report said: "There is a repeated finding of diminished mental health because of the pervasive and insidious effects upon wellbeing of experiencing personal prejudice."...</p> <p>http://www.healthscotland.com/documents/3988.aspx http://www.healthscotland.com/uploads/documents/11836-DimensionsOfDiversity.pdf http://www.healthscotland.com/index.aspx</p>

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UK

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
1/1/10	http://www.eatingdisordersarena.com/eating-disorders-9780415444637	<p>Eating Disorders Cognitive Behaviour Therapy with Children and Young People By Simon G. Gowers, and Lynne Green.</p> <p>In this book, Simon Gowers and Lynne Green bring together up-to-date research, clinical examples and useful tips to guide practitioners in working with young people, as well as helping families of children and adolescents to deal with their difficulties. Eating Disorders provides the clinician with an introduction about how CBT can be used to challenge beliefs about control, restraint, weight and shape, allowing young people to manage their eating disorder.</p> <p>Series: CBT with Children, Adolescents and Families. http://www.routledgejournalhealth.com/cbt-with-children/</p>
1/6/10	Disability Advocacy Project email	<p>Communicating with Patients who have Speech/Language Difficulties for health professionals working with patients who use alternative methods of communication, produced by Communication Matters. http://sites.childrensociety.org.uk/disabilitytoolkit/toolkit/resource.aspx?id=137 https://www.thegoodchildhood.com/disabilitytoolkit/documents/137_Communicating_with_Patients_A4.pdf</p>
1/21/10	http://www.kentnews.co.uk/kent-news/New-website-will-help-to-boost-mental-well-being-newsinkent32030.aspx?news=local	<p>A website aimed at the hundreds of thousands of people with common mental health problems across the county has been launched. The Kent County Council- funded site – liveitwell.org.uk – is aimed at improving mental well-being and has practical tips for boosting happiness... There is also advice on employment and benefits, and a section where people can share their life stories and read those of other visitors... The Mental Health Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for Kent and Medway estimated that there are between 163,000 and 190,000 people across the county with common mental health problems and at any one time 25 per cent of them need treatment. Information about local activities, advice on getting active and eating healthy are also on the new website along with health bosses' vision for mental health in the county, which has been developed in response to local people's views... http://www.liveitwell.org.uk/</p>
1/21/10	http://www.communitycare.co.uk/Articles/2010/02/12/113620/child-behaviour-disorders-linked-to-mums-drinking-while-pregnant.htm	<p>Social workers need to be aware that the cause of challenging behaviour in children could be prenatal alcohol intake... [most of this article deals with FASD.]</p> <p>Related links and resources Free information sheets and training courses for professionals working with children with FASD.</p>

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		<p>http://www.communitycare.co.uk/SiteEntities/EPiServerTemplates/%E2%9E%94 Information on consultancy and training on working with children with FASD.</p> <p>http://www.communitycare.co.uk/SiteEntities/EPiServerTemplates/www.tactcare.org.uk/pages/en/fact.html Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders: A guide for Healthcare Professionals - British Medical Association.</p> <p>http://www.bma.org.uk/health_promotion_ethics/alcohol/Fetalalcohol.jsp Working Together for the Prevention of Fetal Alcohol.</p> <p>http://www.communitycare.co.uk/SiteEntities/EPiServerTemplates/www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/fasd/pdf/guide.pdf</p>
1/28/10	http://www.publicservice.co.uk/news_story.asp?id=11983	<p>... disadvantage continues into later life, according to a report from the National Equality Panel...</p> <p>The report, 'An Anatomy of Inequality in the UK', found that inequality accumulates over a person's lifetime and is carried from one generation to the next. And it showed that public policy intervention is most important and most effective during the pre-school years, at the transition from education to the workplace and when re-entering the labour market after having children...</p> <p>"This report shows yet again that poverty is central to educational underachievement," he said. "Despite recent talk of the importance of parenting it is clear that money matters. Perhaps more striking is evidence that inequality is compounded over the years and has a lasting effect over later life..."</p> <p>http://sticerd.lse.ac.uk/case_new/publications/NEP.asp http://sticerd.lse.ac.uk/dps/case/cr/CASereport60.pdf http://www.equalities.gov.uk/national_equality_panel/publications.aspx http://www.equalities.gov.uk/national_equality_panel.aspx</p>
2/1/10	Email alert from The UK Health and Learning Disability Network http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk/	<p>UK Adult Autism Strategy Consultation - A Summary of the Submissions Received Jan 2010 http://www.ldhealthnetwork.org.uk/docs/adautism.pdf</p>
3/1/10	Email alert from The UK Health and Learning Disability Network http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk/	<p>The Overarching Report of findings from the Adult Autism Strategy consultation activities http://adulthoodstrategy.dialoguebydesign.net/rp/Autism_Overarching_report.pdf Alternatively try: http://snipurl.com/ujc99 is now available to download from the Adult Autism Strategy Consultation website http://adulthoodstrategy.dialoguebydesign.net This report provides an overview of the key themes which emerged from both the online consultation and the public engagement programme. It has been produced by the research agency Opinion Leader.</p>
3/19/10	Email alert from The UK Health and Learning Disability Network http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk/	<p>The Kent Challenging Behaviour Network is pleased to announce the launch of our new website at http://kcbn.org.uk/</p>

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3/22/10	Email alert from The UK Health and Learning Disability Network http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk/	<p>Scope in Australia have a fantastic resource called SUPPORTING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES WITH GRIEF AND LOSS.....It can be used by the person with or without support and has a supporters section and topical sections on WHAT IS GRIEF? WHY DO PEOPLE DIE? A FUNERAL NORMAL FEELINGS WHAT HELPS? and ITS OK.</p> <p>This is the link http://www.scopevic.org.au/index.php/cms/frontend/resource/id/130</p> <p>"Am I going to die?" in the Books Beyond Words series. This is a picture book aimed at explaining dying to people with learning disabilities. It tells the story of John, who is ill and eventually dies at home, having made choices about what he wants to do with his remaining time. Other books in this series might also be helpful (eg "When mum died", "When dad died", "When somebody dies") See http://www.repsych.ac.uk/publications/booksbeyondwords.aspx</p> <p>"Living with learning disabilities, dying with cancer: thirteen personal stories" - not so much a resource for people with LD, but a book that provides useful insights to their carers. It tells the real-life stories of 13 people with LD who had cancer, most of whom died. See http://www.jkp.com/catalogue/book/9781849050272</p>
3/24/10	Email alert from The UK Health and Learning Disability Network http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk/	<p>The first issue of Journal of Learning Disabilities and Offending Behaviour is publishing in April.</p> <p>New – Journal of Learning Disabilities and Offending Behaviour First issue out in April Published by Pier Professional ISSN: 2042-0927 (Print) 2042-8693 (Online)</p> <p>Journal of Learning Disabilities and Offending Behaviour is a unique journal aimed at everyone involved in supporting people with learning disabilities who are involved (or in danger of becoming involved) with the criminal justice or forensic health systems.</p> <p>Publishing quarterly, the Journal offers information on the latest research and policy, as well as practical advice about working effectively with these groups who often fall in the gap between mainstream learning disability and forensic services.</p> <p>· flyer http://www.ldhealthnetwork.org.uk/docs/jldob.pdf · visit: www.pierprofessional.com/jldobflyer</p> <p>Contents and hot topics include: cross-cultural comparisons research and epidemiological issues on the nature and type of offending treatment approaches – what works? risk assessment and management diagnostic issues needs and views of service users and carers education and training needs of staff focus on key offences: arson, sexual offences and violent behaviour victims of crime with learning disabilities forensic services for people with learning disabilities mental health legislation and the implications for offenders with learning disabilities.</p>

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3/31/10	Email alert from The UK Health and Learning Disability Network http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk/	A new film, 'Real lives, real talent, real jobs', featuring the stories of eight people with moderate and severe learning disabilities in real jobs. The film also features family carers, support staff and employers. The full 10-minute version is available on DVD; the 3-minute version can be viewed online. Government's draft definition of supported employment and job coaching. Tools to help you make sure that all people with learning disabilities get good support. Case studies featuring people with moderate and severe learning disabilities in full time jobs. To access the resources please visit: www.valuingpeople.gov.uk/venresources or: http://valuingpeople.gov.uk/dynamic/valuingpeople371.jsp
3/31/10	Email alert from The UK Health and Learning Disability Network http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk/	The report Raising our sights: services for adults with profound intellectual and multiple disabilities has been launched on 19th March 2010. The report, written by Professor Jim Mansell, and commissioned as part of the Valuing People Now delivery plan highlights the most important parts of planning and delivering support for people with the most complex needs http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_114346 Alternatively try: http://snipurl.com/v0e44 Or http://www.ldhealthnetwork.org.uk/docs/sights.pdf
4/18/10	Email alert from The UK Health and Learning Disability Network http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk/	The QIPP challenge The quality, innovation, productivity and prevention (QIPP) challenge is an opportunity to prepare the NHS to deliver high quality care in a tighter economic climate. A short booklet has been produced explaining QIPP to all NHS clinicians including details of how they can start to address this challenge. Link: www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_113806 Or http://www.ldhealthnetwork.org.uk/docs/qipp.pdf
4/18/10	Email alert from The UK Health and Learning Disability Network http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk/	eBulletin for Learning Disabilities Family Carers in England 2nd issue http://www.ldhealthnetwork.org.uk/docs/ebull.pdf
4/28/10	Email alert from The UK Health and Learning Disability Network http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk/	information re human rights and LD. http://www.ldhealthnetwork.org.uk/docs/hrightsld.pdf
4/30/10	Email alert from The UK Health and Learning Disability Network http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk/	New Free stuff from Clear You can now download . Ideas for using sound in word . Step by step instructions for Word 2003 Go to our Free stuff page on our website. Link below http://www.clearforall.co.uk/free_stuff.htm We are now on facebook. Visit our page for info and resources. We are just starting Let's be clear on the facebook page. This is

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		<p>our way of sharing information from our training about good communication. Look out for Let's be clear once or twice a month.</p> <p>Our facebook page is open to everyone. You don't need to have a facebook account. Use the link below to have a look. http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=194904637471 Alternatively try: http://snipurl.com/vw4js www.clearforall.co.uk</p>
5/18/10	<p>Email alert from The UK Health and Learning Disability Network http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk/</p>	<p>See www.easyhealth.org.uk Health leaflets - mental health</p> <p>the Clear Thoughts website www.clearthoughts.info has a range of resources and info on it relating to mental health and learning disability</p> <p>Attached are some info. sheets we have developed for children and young people regarding mental health. The depression one has some pictures missing as I photocopied some and stuck them on!</p> <p>Worry - pictorial handout http://www.ldhealthnetwork.org.uk/docs/mhworry.doc What am I seeing? http://www.ldhealthnetwork.org.uk/docs/mhseeing.doc What is depression? http://www.ldhealthnetwork.org.uk/docs/mhdepression.doc Hope they are useful. I tend to alter to make specific for each person.</p>
6/3/10	<p>Email alert from The UK Health and Learning Disability Network http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk/</p>	<p>From www.communicationmatters.org.uk an introductory presentation on Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC): http://snipurl.com/x1862</p>
6/4/10	<p>Email alert from The UK Health and Learning Disability Network http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk/</p>	<p>On Surrey's Learning Disability Partnership Board under Autism section we have an Autism Spectrum Handbook easy read booklet: www.surreypb.org.uk</p>
6/9/10	<p>Email alert from The UK Health and Learning Disability Network http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk/</p>	<p>UK Law Commission - adult social care review Easy read information Changing Adult Social Care. A guide to the consultation paper http://www.ldhealthnetwork.org.uk/docs/ascsum.pdf Outline of ideas for a new Adult Social Care Statute http://www.ldhealthnetwork.org.uk/docs/ascout.pdf Changing social care for adults http://www.ldhealthnetwork.org.uk/docs/ascleaf.pdf Changing social care for adults (leaflet for voluntary groups) http://www.ldhealthnetwork.org.uk/docs/ascvol.pdf</p>
	<p>Email alert from The UK Health and Learning Disability Network http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk/</p>	<p>Source: SeeAbility, 9 Jun 2010 At the start of Eye Health Awareness Week (14th June) and Learning Disability Week (21st June), SeeAbility is launching a new series of easy read factsheets on eye care and vision for people with learning disabilities.</p>

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		<p>Around 1 in 3 people with a learning disability have a sight problem. Unidentified sight problems seriously undermine people's quality of life and lead to avoidable sight loss and increased dependency.</p> <p>The factsheet series aims to make it clear how to look after your eyes for people with learning disabilities and their carers. They were devised in consultation with a focus group of people with learning disabilities.</p> <p>The first factsheets to be released are 'Having an Eye Test' and 'Wearing Glasses'. Each is packed with full colour illustration and uses clear simple words.</p> <p>In 'Having an Eye Test' people can learn about why they need an eye examination and what happens at the opticians practice. 'Wearing Glasses' backs up the eye care message and explains about choosing and using glasses.</p> <p>Martin Thomas is Manager of the Lookup Information Service. He says, "The factsheets give information to supporters to help them explain to the people they support about eye examinations and why they may need to wear glasses. The imagery used gives people with learning disabilities the chance to prepare or to ask questions too."</p> <p>Download copies of these new factsheets for your practice from the 'Easy Read' section of www.lookupinfo.org</p>
	<p>Email alert from The UK Health and Learning Disability Network http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk/</p>	<p>Parents and supporters of people with learning disabilities may not know about UTAG. This organisation produces a range of memory sticks (which can be worn around the neck). Data can be put on the memory stick via a computer and can contain important data for the medical emergency services.</p> <p>You can see the products on www.utagice.com</p>
	<p>Email alert from The UK Health and Learning Disability Network http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk/</p>	<p>New initiative unveiled aimed at reducing harm to patients with learning disabilities http://www.npsa.nhs.uk/corporate/news/new-initiative-unveiled-aimed-at-reducing-harm-to-patients/ Alternatively try: http://snipurl.com/x8z1q</p>
	<p>Email alert from The UK Health and Learning Disability Network http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk/</p>	<p>Now everyone can create easy read material....Essex County Council has a new website (www.essexice.com) that gives the support and knowledge so that anyone in Essex can communicate with people with learning disabilities.</p> <p>Working with Easy-Read-Online Limited, Inclusive Communication Essex - or Essex ICE has created a website which is in itself accessible to people with learning disabilities and contains...</p> <p>Resources - like photographs, templates and images, and in the secure area... Photosymbols, Change Picture Bank and Valuing People Clipart. Learning - downloadable sheets about taking photos or video; downloading video or photos to your computer and inserting pictures into documents and templates. There are also over 100 video clips of people demonstrating common signs to help people with learning difficulties understand your communication. Training - information about training events.</p>

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<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
1/12/09	MN Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities Council Home Page Update http://www.mnddc.org/	<p>Awareness, Attitudes and Impact of the Americans with Disabilities Act Among Minnesota Businesses</p> <p>MarketResponse International has conducted a survey of 500 Minnesota businesses, including retail stores, restaurants, hotels, banks, grocery stores, and vehicle dealerships; and interviewed architects and engineers, and commercial building contractors, to determine their awareness about the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the impact of the ADA on design and building projects, enforcement of accessibility provisions, and accommodations made and accommodations anticipated to meet accessibility requirements and improve access for people with disabilities.</p> <p>http://www.mnddc.org/extra/customer-research/GCDD_ADA_Study10.html http://www.mnddc.org/extra/customer-research/GCDD_ADA_Study10.pdf http://www.mnddc.org/extra/customer-research/GCDD_ADA_Study10.txt</p>
1/12/09	MN Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities Council Home Page Update http://www.mnddc.org/	<p>A History of Human Services, Universal Lessons, and Future Implications Presented by Wolf Wolfensberger, Ph.D. and Susan Thomas, Training Coordinator</p> <p>In September 1998, Dr. Wolf Wolfensberger (along with Susan Thomas) presented this two-day lecture at Millersville University, Lyte Auditorium, Millersville, PA. The Minnesota Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities is pleased to present this nearly eleven-hour video series of that presentation.</p> <p>Day 1: An Interpreted Pictorial Presentation on the History of Human Services With Emphasis on the Origins of Some of Our Major Contemporary Service Patterns and Some Universal Lessons for Planning and Structuring of Services Which Can Be Learned from This History.</p> <p>Day 2: Reflections on a Lifetime in Human Services From Prior to the Reforms of the 1950s-70s to the Present, with Implications for the Future: What Has Gotten Better, What Has Gotten Worse, What Is the Same, and What Lies Ahead.</p> <p>http://www.mnddc.org/wolfensberger/index.html</p>
1/22/10	Intersection: Navigating the Road to Work, the electronic newsletter of the National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth (NCWD/Youth). http://www.ncwd-youth.info/	<p>NCWD/Youth Releases Policy Brief on Supporting Youth with Mental Health Needs</p> <p>http://www.ncwd-youth.info/policy-brief-02</p> <p>Last fall, NCWD/Youth released a policy brief entitled</p>

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		<p>“Supporting Transition to Adulthood Among Youth with Mental Health Needs: Action Steps for Policymakers.” This policy brief provides specific recommendations to aid policymakers across youth-serving systems to better serve youth with mental health needs. The following recommendations appear in the report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ provide multidimensional, integrated services tailored to young people’s needs; ▪ collaborate and coordinate across state and local agencies; ▪ broaden eligibility criteria for mental health services; ▪ involve youth and families in policy development; ▪ leverage various federal and state funding sources; ▪ build the competencies of career education and workforce professionals; and ▪ design and fund pilot demonstrations that evaluate promising practices. <p>This policy brief is one in a series that NCWD/Youth published based on four major reports released in the last few years focusing on transition-age youth with mental health needs.</p>
1/22/10	<p>Intersection: Navigating the Road to Work, the electronic newsletter of the National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth (NCWD/Youth). http://www.ncwd-youth.info/</p>	<p>Social Security Administration Launches Ticket to Work Website http://www.choosework.net</p> <p>The Social Security Administration launched the new ChooseWork.net website for people with disabilities receiving Social Security disability benefits. The site features an overview of Ticket to Work programs, videos and stories from individuals involved with Ticket to Work, links, resources, and more.</p>
1/26/10	<p>The eCast, Mental Health & Rehabilitation Newsletter http://www.bu.edu/cpr/prj/</p>	<p>Primer on the Psychiatric Rehabilitation Process Now Available</p> <p>Regardless of the psychiatric rehabilitation program model, the discipline of the practitioner, the source of funding, or the setting in which people are working, practitioners should be aware of the essentials of the psychiatric rehabilitation process. The Primer on the Psychiatric Rehabilitation Process is composed of three sections: Understanding the Background and Process of Psychiatric Rehabilitation; Tracking the Psychiatric Rehabilitation Process; and Recording the Psychiatric Rehabilitation Process. Several appendices provide examples to further one’s understanding of the process.</p> <p>For a free download of the Primer, go to: http://www.bu.edu/cpr/products/books/titles/prprimer.html</p>
1/26/10	<p>The eCast, Mental Health & Rehabilitation Newsletter http://www.bu.edu/cpr/prj/</p>	<p>New Technical Assistance (TA) and Training Service Using Psychiatric Rehabilitation Technology Now Available</p> <p>The Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation is offering technical assistance and training to Evidence Based Practice programs interested in adapting and applying psychiatric rehabilitation technology. The TA is designed to help improve practitioner effectiveness in involving individuals in the change process that your program is designed to facilitate. Components of the</p>

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		<p>psychiatric rehabilitation technology include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * How to develop and maintain an understanding and respectful relationship * How to facilitate an individual's setting self-determined and informed goals * How to teach and support application of new skills * How to facilitate an individual's linkage to and successful use of resources * How to facilitate the development of positive expectancies and hope for change * How to facilitate people gaining insights about their own behavior <p>For more information visit http://www.bu.edu/cpr/training/consultation-inservice/technical-assistance.html</p>
1/26/10	http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2010/jan/26/new-modified-tcap-evaluates-students-disabilities/	<p>With more pictures and fewer questions, a new modified TCAP test is being rolled out this spring for children in grades 3-8 who have disabilities, according to the Tennessee Department of Education.</p> <p>Called TCAP-MAAS, for Tennessee Comprehensive Achievement Program - Modified Academic Achievement Standard, the test is expected to be a better measurement of achievement for students with disabilities like autism, dyslexia or cognitive delays. It was developed by some 175 educators across the state, piloted last spring in a number of systems, and is now available statewide...</p> <p>"Our task was to develop an assessment that is more accessible for our special education students," says Nixon. "We found that the test itself was a barrier for some students."</p> <p>The new test covers the same grade level curriculum, but has fewer questions, more white space, more pictures and graphs and bigger type font...</p> <p>Each child first must be approved to take the test by an IEP (Individualized Education Plan) team, a committee of parents, teachers and specialists who meet periodically to determine the educational plan for a student with a disability. While teams can meet by e-mail or phone, they more often meet in person...</p> <p>http://www.tennessee.gov/education/assessment/alt_MAAS.shtml http://www.tennessee.gov/education/assessment/doc/MAAS_initial_guid_explan.pdf</p>
1/28/10	<p>HCBS E-CLIPS CLEARINGHOUSE CLIPS http://www.hcbs.org</p>	<p>Confronting Multiple Oppressions: Examining the Needs of People with Disabilities who are of Hispanic / Latino Descent Summary: Hispanic individuals with disabilities have unique needs that service systems often do not meet. Schwab Rehabilitation Hospital recently conducted a needs assessment with our Hispanic patients with disabilities, striving to understand the general disability-related needs of Hispanic patients and how medical systems can fit into meeting these needs. The presentation was prepared for the Latino Social</p>

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		<p>Workers Organization's conference in March 2009. Review the slides for a program overview and to generate ideas for services in your area.</p> <p>http://www.hcbs.org/moreInfo.php/nb/doc/2815 http://www.hcbs.org/files/167/8340/091224-Confronting_Multiple_Oppressions.pdf http://www.hcbs.org/files/167/8342/091224-Needs_Assessment_Hispanic_Vertiz.pdf</p>
1/28/10	<p>HCBS E-CLIPS CLEARINGHOUSE CLIPS http://www.hcbs.org</p>	<p>Follow the Money: Financing Home and Community-Based Services</p> <p>Summary: This report focuses on creating a more balanced delivery system by expanding home and community-based services and reducing reliance on institutional care where possible is a major goal for virtually all states and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. The paper concludes by summarizing initiatives and drawing implications for the future financing of home and community-based services.</p> <p>Source: Pennsylvania Medicaid Policy Center</p> <p>More Info: http://www.hcbs.org/moreInfo.php/nb/doc/2777 http://www.hcbs.org/files/164/8192/Homecare_rp_09.pdf http://www.pamedicaid.pitt.edu/longterm_care.html</p>
1/28/10	<p>HCBS E-CLIPS CLEARINGHOUSE CLIPS http://www.hcbs.org</p>	<p>State of Aging: 2009 State Perspectives on State Units on Aging Policies and Practices</p> <p>Summary: Interested in the work and current challenges that face The National Association of State Units on Aging members? This report, resulting from a February through April 2009 NASUA survey, was given to its members to obtain a snapshot of their work and the current challenges they face. The results, divided into 10 themes, provide that snapshot as well as the states' perspective on the evolution of the aging network as it works to redesign the long-term care delivery system.</p> <p>Source: National Association of State Units on Aging (NASUA)</p> <p>More Info: http://www.hcbs.org/moreInfo.php/nb/doc/2774 http://www.nasua.org/ http://nasua.org/documents/StatePerspective2009_000.pdf</p>
1/28/10	<p>HCBS E-CLIPS CLEARINGHOUSE CLIPS http://www.hcbs.org</p>	<p>Technical Assistance Collaborative, Inc. (TAC) - Website</p> <p>Summary: TAC is a national non-profit organization that advances proven solutions to the housing and community support needs of vulnerable low-income people with significant long-term disabilities. Their goal is to achieve sustainable public sector systems change through evidenced-based, promising approaches in mental health, substance abuse, human services and affordable and permanent supportive housing. Visit this website to find news, training, publications, and policy and program info.</p> <p>Source: TAC, Technical Assistance Collaborative, Inc.</p> <p>More Info: http://www.hcbs.org/moreInfo.php/nb/doc/2903 http://tacinc.org/index.html</p>

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1/28/10	HCBS E-CLIPS CLEARINGHOUSE CLIPS http://www.hcbs.org	<p>Ticket to Work Mental Health Summit: Recovery Through Work - 2009</p> <p>Summary: SSA’s Office of Employment Support Programs (OESP), CMS and SAMHSA hosted a two day summit focusing on its Ticket to Work Program and mental health employment services. Presenters gave a series of keynotes and breakout sessions including topics such as dispelling Ticket Program myths, functioning as a successful Employment Network, and evidence-based practice in supported employment.</p> <p>Source: Social Security Administration</p> <p>More Info: http://www.hcbs.org/moreInfo.php/nb/doc/2905 http://www.cessi.net/ticketmentalhealthsummit/program.html</p>
1/28/10	HCBS E-CLIPS CLEARINGHOUSE CLIPS http://www.hcbs.org	<p>Tips for Working with Refugees with Disabilities & Connecting Them to Community Resources</p> <p>Summary: Review presentations created and facilitated by the Community Connections for Refugees with Disabilities program sponsored by Schwab Rehabilitation Hospital in Chicago, IL. One offers ideas and things to consider when connecting people to community resources; the other focuses on things to remember when working with members of particular cultures. Although both presentations were made with an Illinois audience in mind, people from other states will find helpful information here as well.</p> <p>Source: Schwab Rehabilitation Hospital</p> <p>More Info: http://www.hcbs.org/moreInfo.php/nb/doc/2817 http://www.hcbs.org/files/167/8337/Refugee_Conference_2008.pdf http://www.hcbs.org/files/167/8338/Refugees_with_Disabilities.pdf</p>