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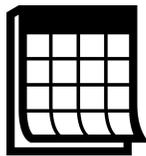
End Abuse of People with Disabilities

Monthly Newsletter

Vera Center on Victimization + Safety

A NEW CVS PUBLICATION!

The Center on Victimization and Safety has released it's newest publication, *Compensation Considerations for Self-Advocates on Government Benefits*. The tip sheet was designed to provide basic information on some government programs for people with disabilities and explain the potential effects that receiving compensation for their work in the movement to end violence against people with disabilities could have on those benefits. [Read the tip sheet here.](#)



Upcoming Webinars and Trainings

2018 End Abuse of People with Disabilities Webinar Series

Creating and Maintaining a Safety Net for Survivors with Disabilities

May 15, 2018
2-3:30 pm ET

This webinar will provide information to domestic violence and sexual assault

Emergency Response Plans for People with Disabilities

By: Jannette Brickman, Senior Program Associate



Following a domestic violence incident or sexual assault, it can be quite difficult to communicate your needs and vital information to the people who are there to help. This can be especially true for people with cognitive and intellectual disabilities. Emergency

providers on how to connect survivors with disabilities to additional, necessary resources and how to ensure that those benefits and resources are protected even when an individual with a disability is employed as a part of the movement.

[Register here.](#)

Nothing About Us Without Us: Centering the Movement Around Self-Advocates

July 17, 2018
2-3:30 pm ET

This webinar will provide an overview of how to facilitate the effective participation of self-advocates at the intersection of violence and disability as well as some of the many benefits of doing so.

[Register here.](#)

Please be on the lookout for the rescheduled date for our March webinar. More information will be available soon.

Registration closes one week prior to the webinar date for all of our webinars.

Save the Dates for the 2018 End Abuse of People with Disabilities Webinar Series!

- May 15, 2018
- July 17, 2018
- August 21, 2018 - DATE CHANGE
- September 18, 2018

Don't forget - you can view all of our archived [webinars](#) on our [End Abuse of People with Disabilities website](#).

Response Plans can be a great tool for conveying vital information to first responders after an incidence of violence.

Emergency Response Plans are forms that individuals can fill out in advance of any crisis and have on hand in case of emergency. They can contain such information as insurance information, personal care attendant contact information, medications, and pertinent diagnoses. They can also contain information such as preferred methods of communication or self-cues on how to remember to stay calm.

Some key considerations of ERPs include:

- They are owned by the person filling them out. They should be returned to the person when finished and not become part of any file generated by the exchange.
- They are consumer-driven. They should be filled out by the person him- or herself, not by another person acting on their behalf. Other parties may assist, but the content of the ERPs should be generated by the person whose ERP it is.
- They are not blanket consents to contact anyone; they do not replace asking for permission to contact anyone listed on the ERP.

For an example of an ERP, with suggested topics to cover, please see the [Behavioral Health Emergency Response Plan](#) created in San Diego.

On that website, you can also find the form in numerous languages.

We encourage anyone who may benefit from an ERP to take the time to fill one out and keep on their person. We hope it's never needed, but during a crisis situation it can be a very useful tool for everyone involved.



In the News

In Jacksonville, Florida, an independent living center is piloting a program to train American Sign Language interpreters in trauma-informed interpreting to decrease barriers for Deaf women who experience domestic violence. [Read more on the My Journal Carrier website.](#)



Share Your Ideas!

Do you have ideas about issues we could highlight in our monthly newsletter, topics for our monthly webinar series, or information about new initiatives that seek justice for people with disabilities? We want your feedback! Take advantage of this feature in our newsletter and submit your ideas thoughts and feedback by emailing cv@vera.org.

A recent op-ed in The Hill discussed the inclusion of students with disabilities in the discussion about sexual assault on college campuses. It highlights the *Not on the Radar*, the groundbreaking report on sexual assault of college students with disabilities, and advocates for the passage of the SECuRE Act, which addresses the issue. [Read more on The Hill website](#).

One self-advocate talks about ableism and the society that perpetuates it in a new blog. [Read the Crutches and Spice blog](#).

Another op-ed discusses the need for the #MeToo movement to recognize people with disabilities. "For the disability community, saying "me too" means becoming rid of stigmas, rid of sexual assault, and rid of ableist ideals," the author writes. [Read the entire op-ed on the Teen Vogue website](#).

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