



Inclusive Healthcare Partnership Project

Better health through patient-provider partnerships for adults with developmental disabilities.

Resources for Supporting Adult Patients with Developmental Disabilities

Self-Advocacy

Self-advocacy is the civil rights movement for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). It is also a skill set that supports people with I/DD in speaking up for themselves.



- Green Mountain Self-Advocates (GMSA). GMSA is Vermont's statewide self-advocacy organization run by and for people with I/DD. GMSA hosts trainings and supports 20+ local self-advocacy groups. See: www.gmsavt.org
- The Autistic Self-Advocacy Network (ASAN). ASAN seeks to advance the principles of the disability rights movement with regard to autism. Run entirely by people with autism, ASAN has a resource library of materials in easy read and plain language formats. See: <https://autisticadvocacy.org/>
- Self-Advocacy Resource and Technical Assistance Center (SARTAC). SARTAC is the national center that supports self-advocacy. The many plain language resources about self-advocacy, disability rights, and other topics of interest to people with I/DD. See: www.selfadvocacyinfo.org

- Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL). VCIL offers peer-to-peer counseling about disability benefits and programs. See: www.vcil.org

Healthcare

- All Brains Belong VT (ABB). Based in Montpelier, ABB provides neurodiverse patients with flexible, individualized ways to get healthcare and connect with community. See: www.allbrainsbelong.org
- American Academy of Developmental Medicine & Dentistry (AADMD). AADMD is a cross-disciplinary professional association for healthcare providers who are committed to improving the healthcare of people with I/DD. See: www.aadmd.org
- Inclusive Healthcare Partnership Project (IHPP). IHPP is supported by a grant from the Vermont Department of Health to develop plain language health information for adults with I/DD and to train healthcare professionals in inclusive practices. See: www.ihppvt.org
- Special Olympics Center for Inclusive Health. Special Olympics has broadened its mission to become one of the leading public health organizations focusing on patients with I/DD. Their website includes a Toolkit for Inclusive Primary Care. See: [Inclusive Health \(specialolympics.org\)](http://www.specialolympics.org)
- University of California San Francisco, Office of Developmental Primary Care (ODPC). Established in 2007, ODPC is the home of the CART Collaborative, which serves transition age youth and adults through Clinical service, Advocacy, Research, and Training. They maintain an on-line library of resources for healthcare professionals serving people with I/DD. See: www.odpc.ucsf.edu



Guidelines and Tools

- Anti-Ableist Action Steps. Compiled by disability activist and Vermont resident Eli Clare, this document shares guidelines for respectful interactions as described by people who experience various types of disabilities. See: www.eliclare.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Action_Steps_for_Medical_Providers-12pt.pdf
- Echo Autism Communities, Health Professionals. A clearinghouse of best practices for health professionals working with patients on the autism spectrum. See: www.echoautism.org/health-professionals
- The A-Z's of Disability Etiquette. Excellence summary from Independence Australia. See: www.independenceaustralia.com.au/health-articles/a-z/#
- Surrey Place, Primary Care Guidelines. Although developed in Canada, there are many checklists and useful tips on delivering primary care to adults with I/DD. See: www.ddprimarycare.surreyplace.ca

