

UCCEDD NEWSLETTER

Fall 2021

Research Spotlight - Kara Ayers



One of UCCEDD's team members, Kara Ayers, is the co-investigator for two research centers that will help improve the experience of parenting and pregnancy for people with disabilities. These grants will fund research that address gaps in support and challenges that parents with disabilities may face. The funding is made possible by the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research.

[Learn More About Kara's Research here](#)

Ohio F2F Spotlight

Maureen reached out to Ohio Family to Family in hopes of finding qualified care for her son. The problem, however, was that due to his age and placement in multiple systems there were no placements at qualified behavioral or therapeutic facilities in Ohio. Ohio Family to Family coordinated a care meeting with local and state representatives and eventually, Ohio Medicaid agreed to pay for his out of state care, since there was nothing available in Ohio.

[More on Maureen's experience here](#)

Center for Dignity - COVID-19 Booster Tracker

Medical COVID-19 Session

On October 7, a board of medical experts hosted a Q&A session on COVID-19. The session focused on navigating COVID-19 for caregivers of children with disabilities. This session aimed to provide caregivers with the information and resources needed to keep their children healthy during the pandemic. The Q&A format of this session allowed caregivers to ask specific questions relevant to their child

The Center for Dignity has released a COVID-19



Booster tracker. This tracker allows you to enter the date of your last vaccination and gives you the date when you are eligible to get a booster.

[View the booster tracker here](#)

and the care that they need.

[View the recording and presentation here](#)

Ohio DD Talks - Amy Clawson

Amy Clawson, of Ohio Family to Family was



featured on Ohio DD Talks Web Series. The video, which is available on Youtube, discusses nursing services and home care in Ohio. Ohio DD Talks has a wide variety of videos on their YouTube page that cover a multitude of important topics.

[Watch the video here](#)

[Ohio DD Talks](#)

Stay Healthy - Get a Flu Shot

The flu shot is the best way to protect your child and your family against the flu. Children with special health care needs are at a higher risk of complications from the flu.

We can avoid a 'twindemic' this year by ensuring that everyone 6 months and older gets their flu vaccine. Call your pediatrician today.

Help your child stay healthy and out of the hospital this flu season.

Make sure your child gets the flu vaccine.

American Academy of Pediatrics
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN

healthychildren.org
HEALTHY CHILDREN
A PEDIATRIC PARTNERSHIP

Getting Vaccinated - Social Narrative



The COVID-19 pandemic is still around. **This**

social narrative for visual learners talks about why getting vaccinated against the flu and COVID-19 is important.

[View the narrative here](#)

Policy Updates

Federal Policy Update: The White House has released that the Build Back Better plan will be advanced into law, pending negotiation. The Build Back Better Act includes a proposed \$150 billion to strengthen Medicaid home and community based services (HCBS). This \$150 billion would provide funding to aid people with disabilities to live in their communities with the services and support they need. This is not a done deal and if you are concerned, **you can contact your senators and representatives** to tell them how vital HCBS funding is.

State Policy Update: The UCCEDD has been working with Ohio policymakers on HB352/SB202, which would prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability in parenting. The UCCEDD has had meetings with the sponsors of these bills to ensure that the bills reflect the equal rights of parents with disabilities.

[More information on the Build Back Better Act here](#)

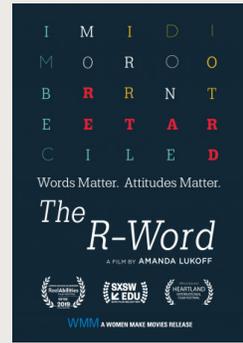
Act Early Ohio Updates

Act Early Ohio encourages parents and caregivers to track their child's development. By acting early and using a developmental milestones checklist and talking to your child's doctor, you can ensure that you are tracking your child's development properly. Act Early Ohio has received funding for the new funding year and has released some of their planned activities for the year. Those planned activities include social media campaigns, interactive virtual sessions, providing primary care physicians with toolkits and age-specific books, and to expand outreach to latinx community. Each of these targeted goals will equip parents and caregivers with even more tools and opportunities to monitor their child's development.



"The R-Word" Screening

On October 27, Ohio Family to Family hosted a screening and panel discussion over Zoom for the film "The R-Word". The film, created by filmmaker Amanda Lukoff, takes a unique lens of the sibling experience, since Lukoff grew up advocating for her sister, Gabrielle. "The R-Word" looks at the history and effects of the word and ultimately makes a case for why the conversation surrounding intellectual and developmental disabilities needs to change. 120 people attended the screening. The screening was in collaboration with Sadie Everett at the University of Cincinnati College of Education, Criminal Justice, and Human Services.



[Visit Act Early Ohio's website here](#)

[Learn More about the film here](#)

Upcoming Events

Thursday, December 9, 5:30pm - DDBP Outreach - Understanding Behavior

Monday, December 12, 1:00pm - The Gifted Event: Noble Barber and Beauty

Wednesday, January 19, 5:30pm - DDBP Outreach - Managing Anxiety: Helping Kids with Developmental Disabilities Cope and Succeed

Thursday, February 17, 5:30pm - DDBP Outreach - Executive Functioning Organizational Skills for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities

Details about all trainings and events, including Transition Booster Sessions can be found [here](#)

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Developmental Disabilities**

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