



**FEMA**

## **FEMA Disability Stakeholder Call Observing Developmental Disability Awareness Month**

On March 24, 2021, the FEMA Office of Disability Integration and Coordination (ODIC) and our partners held a stakeholder event to learn about [National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month](#) and the importance of including people with developmental disabilities in emergency preparedness, response and recovery efforts. The agenda for this event and related resources on the topic are below.

**Related to this topic:** [Easing the Vaccination Process for People with Disabilities](#)

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### **Linda Mastandrea, FEMA, Director, Office of Disability Integration and Coordination**

Linda is responsible for leading FEMA's commitment to whole-community emergency management by integrating individuals with disabilities into all aspects of disaster preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation.

- Welcome
- Agenda

### **Alison Barkoff, Acting Administrator and Assistant Secretary of Aging, Administration for Community Living, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services**

Alison Barkoff will discuss the issues people with disabilities, particularly developmental disabilities, have faced during COVID-19 and how ACL's disability networks across the country have provided assistance, including in partnering with state and local entities to assist with vaccine access.

### **A Blythe Ryerson, PhD, MPH, Acting Director, Division of Human Development and Disability, National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities, CDC**

Dr. Ryerson will discuss why it is important to ensure people with developmental disabilities are included in public health emergency planning, response, and recovery efforts. She will provide an overview of CDC's efforts to address the needs of people with disabilities during the COVID-19 response and recovery efforts. Lastly, she will share resources that may be helpful as stakeholders plan for COVID-19 vaccination in their communities.

### **Donna Meltzer, CEO, National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities**

CEO Donna Meltzer will open remarks as part of Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month (DDAM) activities to share information about how both the NACDD and its 56 member Councils work to support full inclusion in community living for people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD).



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### **Erin Prangley, Director of Public Policy, National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities**

Erin Prangley will continue the discussion on how the network of DD Councils works to prepare for emergency situations, responds to situations such as natural disasters as well as pandemics, and how we can all work together to best support people with I/DD, their families, and their caregivers to stay safe, healthy, and able to receive the COVID-10 vaccine.

### **Q&A**

#### **Linda Mastandrea**

- Closing Remarks

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### **Online Partner Resources on this Topic**

#### **Administration for Community Living, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services**

- **COVID-19 Response Information Page:** <https://acl.gov/COVID-19>
- **Blog Post “Celebrating our Impact During DD Awareness Month” by Acting Administrator Alison Barkoff:** <https://acl.gov/news-and-events/acl-blog/celebrating-our-impact-during-dd-awareness-month>

#### **National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities**

- DD Awareness Month Resource Guide ([Link here](#))
- DD Awareness Month Logo in English, Spanish, Vietnamese and Cantonese ([Link here](#))
- Donna Meltzer Statement on Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month (Blog [Link here](#))
- State Proclamations celebrating Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month from Nevada ([Link here](#)) and Massachusetts ([Link Here](#))
- Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month Kick-Off PowerPoint Presentation in English and Spanish (PowerPoint Files Included on this Post)
- Guam Developmental Disabilities Council Facebook Live Event to Proclaim March Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month (Facebook Live [Link here](#))
- NACDD shares ACL Statement Blog (Blog [Link here](#))
- Florida Developmental Disabilities Council Online Event “Virtual 2021 DD Day” (Event [Link here](#))
- CDC Developmental Disabilities Resources and Information ([Link](#))