



## HealthAdvocacy Training: Healthcare Stories from People with Disability

**Welcome to HEALTHCARE STORIES.** <https://dredf.org/healthcare-stories/>

- **Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund** – Healthcare Stories is a video advocacy tool in DREDF’s ongoing campaign for healthcare justice for people with disabilities. We are deeply grateful to The Special Hope Foundation and The Manuel D. and Rhoda Mayerson Foundation for their visionary support of the project, which began collecting stories in 2011.

**Navigating Health Care with a Disability: Our Stories, a Focus on People with Disabilities.** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VgbPFV0i3vA>

- **Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services** – Hear testimonials from people with #disabilities where they describe their experience accessing health care. To review more details, check out Getting the Care You Need: A Guide for Individuals with Disabilities, a best practices resource that highlights the approaches some beneficiaries with disabilities have implemented to help providers and office staff better meet the needs of people with disabilities. To learn more, visit [www.go.cms.gov/omh](http://www.go.cms.gov/omh)

**Bridging the Gap: Improving Healthcare Access for People with Disabilities.** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h307701-b-c>

- **WITH Foundation** – Healthcare providers do not receive adequate training to practice culturally sensitive care to those with disabilities. This creates a barrier to primary and emergency medicine. Melissa shares her stories of both frustration and victory, working with practitioners to break down assumptions.

**Persons with Disabilities Share their Experiences of Accessing Health Information.** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LFzBcwC2qqg>

- **World Health Organization** – Persons with disabilities have the right to the highest attainable standard of health. However, persisting barriers prevent them from accessing the health services they need. To ensure the voices of persons with disabilities are heard, we asked 12 persons with disabilities from India, Kenya, Nigeria and Zambia to share their experiences of accessing health information and sexual and reproductive health services. This is what they shared with us.

**Pandemic means Americans with disabilities aren’t getting the services they need.** <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/pandemic-means-americans-with-disabilities-arent-getting-the-services-they-need>



## HealthAdvocacy Training: Healthcare Stories from People with Disability

- **PBS.org** – For more than 60 million Americans with disabilities, the rapid spread of COVID-19 is especially dangerous. Many live in long-term care facilities, and they are twice as likely to experience poverty as those without disability. But so far, legislation has fallen short on help. We hear some of their stories, and Stephanie Sy talks to Rebecca Cokley of the Center for American Progress.
- 

### EXTRA Resources

#### Cultural Competency

- Medical News Today. (2023). What is cultural competency, and why is it crucial to healthcare?  
<https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/what-is-cultural-competency-and-why-is-it-crucial-to-healthcare#Cultural-competency-hurdles>

#### History of Advocacy among People with Developmental Disability

- Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities. (2023). **Parallels in Time: A History of Developmental Disabilities**. Disability Minnesota Department of Administration. <https://mn.gov/mnddc/parallels/>
- People First. (2023). **History of People First**.  
<http://peoplefirstwv.org/old-front/history-of-people-first>
- Illinois Self-Advocacy Alliance. (2023). **Self-Advocacy Leadership Manual. Self Advocates Becoming Empowered (SABE)**.  
<https://www.selfadvocacyinfo.org/resource/self-advocacy-leadership-manual/>

#### Dehumanized and Devalued

- Brennan, W. (2000). Dehumanizing the vulnerable: When word games take lives. Chicago: Loyola University Press.  
<https://disabilityjustice.org/justice-denied/dehumanization-discrimination-and-segregation/>

#### Explicit and Implicit Disability Attitudes

- VanPuymbrouck (2020). Explicit and Implicit Disability Attitudes of Healthcare Providers.  
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9534792/>

#### “ Savior-Designed ” Systems versus “ Ally-Designed ” Systems

- National institute for Children's Health Quality. (2023). From Savior-Designed to Equity-Empowered Systems.  
<https://nichq.org/insight/savior-designed-equity-empowered-systems>