

AUCD

Health & Disability Digest

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Digest Submissions

Would you like to share important updates or innovative practices from

CDC State Disability and Health Grantees:

Spotlight on Arizona



New, user-friendly portal to quality online health information resources. The Sonoran UCEDD announces the launch of its redesigned health and wellness information website (<http://health.sonoranucedd.fcm.arizona.edu/>) created primarily for health information seekers who have a developmental disability. The emphasis with this new design was in creating an online environment welcoming to a diverse audience with a broad range of abilities. We wanted the site to be responsive to various user levels in reading ability, comprehension, and comfort in accessing the web to help individuals find their way to usable information.

To accomplish this, the site has some key design features such as illustrated descriptors that describe a resource's reading level (if text), media format, and availability in Spanish; organization of resources using topic/subtopic navigation buttons that pair images with text; and a simple, intuitive site navigation system.

Media format descriptors indicate if a resource is text, text with audio (narrated), audio, or video-based. Descriptors for text resources also describe broadly by school grade to give users a general idea about how information is presented. Categories include • low text, • beginner (1st-4th grade), • intermediate (5th -7th grade), • advanced (8th +).

This site is a work in progress and we look to the UCEDD network for assistance in identifying informative and relevant online resources and for sharing thoughts on how we can improve the site. Refining the design and growing its catalogue of resource links in an on-going process. Please send us your suggestions/comments (suhealth@email.arizona.edu). Thank you!

AUCD Welcomes Adriane K. Griffen, Project Director

your program?

Health & Disability Digest invites you to submit notable information from your project including information about your staff, network wide requests, upcoming or past events, available positions, new research developments, and resources.

Articles can be submitted using the [online form](#) or emailed to [Danielle Edson](#).

Health & Disability Archive

View past issues of *Health & Disability Digest* in the [Issue Archive](#).

for the AUCD-NCBDDD Cooperative Agreement



Adriane K. Griffen, MPH, CHES, will serve as the Director of AUCD's Cooperative Agreement with the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD) of CDC. Adriane will direct the overall efforts of the Cooperative Agreement including the Research Topics of Interest (RTOI) competitions, Technical Assistance to the State Disability and Health Programs, CDC Fellowship and Collaborative Research Awards and work with project staff to conduct the Act Early

Regional Autism Summits. Previously Adriane served as the Director of Health Promotion and Partnerships for the Spina Bifida Association (SBA) where she was responsible for program and campaign management; including audience research, program design, evaluation, and partnership development. At SBA she managed the Recurrence Prevention Program where she initiated a national social marketing effort to increase awareness of folic acid. [Learn more about Adriane on our website.](#)

Disability and Health Journal Accepting Submissions for 2010

The Disability and Health Journal (DHJ) is the official journal of the American Association on Health and Disability (www.aahd.us).

The Disability and Health Journal www.disabilityandhealthjnl.com is accepting submissions for 2010 and you can learn about the process for submissions by visiting the journal website. All members of the AUCD network are entitled to receive a subscription discount for the journal. Please visit www.aahd.us/membership to fill out the AAHD membership form and indicate on the form "AUCD. The membership fee for the AUCD network is \$100.00 and includes a hard copy of the journal and access to the electronic version.

The Disability and Health Journal is the only peer reviewed scientific, scholarly and multidisciplinary journal that focuses on

- health promotion and wellness initiatives for people with disabilities
- programs to reduce the incidence of secondary conditions in people with disabilities
- ways to reduce the health disparities between people with disabilities and the general population
- evaluative research on new interventions, technologies and programs
- reports of empirical research on the characteristics of persons with disabilities, environments, health outcomes, and determinants of health
- systematic reviews of research literatures in health and disability

- the conceptual framework of the international classification of functioning, disability and health to describe health and health related states
- existing and emerging models of healthcare delivery/promotion which contribute to the improvement of healthcare across the lifespan
- public health, health promotion, health education, wellness and prevention
- population based studies.

The Journal is of interest to health related academic researchers, physicians, public health officials and professionals, epidemiologists, biostatisticians, health and wellness promotion specialists, health administrators and health policy experts.

The Editors of the DHJ are Suzanne McDermott, PhD, Department of Family and Preventive Medicine, University of South Carolina School of Medicine, Columbia, SC and Margaret A. Turk, MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation and Pediatrics, SUNY Upstate Medical University, Syracuse, NY

AUCD Welcomes New AUCD-NCBDDD Fellow, Ismaila Ramon



Ismaila Ramon joined CDC's National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD) as the Disability Surveillance and Epidemiology Fellow in September, 2009. Mr. Ramon is working as a member of the Disability and Health Team in the Division of Human Development and

Disability (DHDD). He will work with a professional team of experts to help define areas of analysis, as related to health surveillance; the team will also develop epidemiologic studies to identify risk and protective factors for identified disparities.

Prior to joining the CDC, Mr. Ramon brings over 6 years of public health and epidemiology experience and training to the NCBDDD. Having worked as an Injury and Disability Program Epidemiologist, with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, he provided Epidemiologic support to Statewide Injury and Disability Programs. He is a member of several organizations including the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologist, American Association on Health and Disability, and the American Public Health Association. His expertise was also called upon as an Adjunct Professor with Kaplan University, while also serving as a member of the Kansas State Planning Committee for the Prevention of Sexual and Domestic Violence.

Mr. Ramon received a Bachelor of Science degree in Human Anatomy from Ahmadu Bello University and a Master's Degree in

Public Health with a focus on Epidemiology from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. He is currently working on his Doctoral Degree in Public Health at Walden University.

APHA Scholarship Recipient Reflections:

**By Chiaki Gonda
Graduate Research Assistant
Research and Training Center on Independent Living
The University of Kansas Dole Center**

It was my second time to attend the American Public Health Association annual conference and my first time to present my own poster. I had the opportunity to co-author two posters and one paper presentation. One of the highlights of this conference for me was giving a poster presentation at the Social Justice & Public Health poster session organized by the Spirit of 1848 Caucus. I gave a presentation on "Reducing Disparities in Emergency Preparedness and Response for People with Disabilities" where I emphasized the need for developing a framework, guidelines and strategic action plans that meet the needs of people with disabilities during emergency and disaster events. It was a wonderful opportunity for me to see many people outside of the Disability Section, who showed interest in my poster and asked several thoughtful questions.

One of my favorite moments was attending the business meeting of the Disability Section, where we were able to meet award winners and socialize with other disability section members. One of the benefits of the APHA Conference is meeting new people and learning about their research and practice through a network of scientists, practitioners and student attendees. The Disability Section is unique because of its diversity in people's backgrounds and interests, but we all have common goals - to enhance the well-being and reduce health disparities of people with disabilities. I was again reminded and astonished by how public health can cover such a wide range of topics, and how disability issues fit into every aspect of the public health spectrum.

I am really glad I had the chance to attend this year's conference. It facilitated my personal and professional development in my career and empowered me to pursue my goal to link disability issues and public health in my own country, Japan. I thank AUCD and the Disability Section of APHA for providing me this scholarship and the opportunity to attend the APHA conference!

Click below to view Chiaka Gonda's APHA Photo Album:

[Chiaki Gonda's APHA Experience](#)

Upcoming Conferences

[HHS Public Health Emergency Stakeholders Workshop 2009](#)
December 2-4, 2009

Washington, DC

[Perspectives on Employment of Persons with Disabilities](#) December 9-11, 2009

Bethesda, Maryland

[Innovation in Accessible Transport for All](#)

January 14, 2010

Washington, DC

[2010 International Autism Conference - Autism: A Global Issue](#)

February 16-18, 2010

Jerusalem

[2010 Welfare Research and Evaluation Conference](#)

June 2-4, 2010

Washington, DC

[Autism Society National Conference](#)

July 7-10, 2010

Dallas, TX

For questions or comments about the *AUCD Health & Disability Digest*, please contact:

Danielle Edson, Project Specialist - CDC Cooperative Agreement at dedson@aucd.org

The content of this newsletter does not necessarily reflect the views and policies of NCBDDD, CDC and no official support or endorsement is intended nor should be inferred.