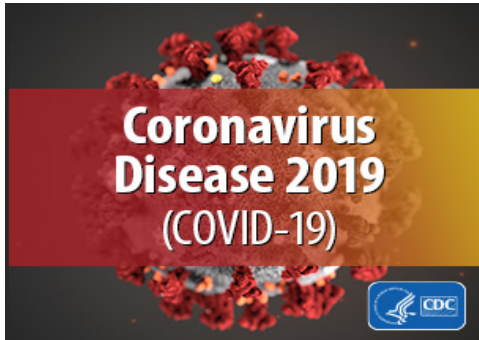




## DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

### OIFA Member Newsletter - June 2020

#### DDD Continuing Actions Related to COVID-19



DDD has implemented many [temporary measures](#) to support members and vendors as a result of COVID-19. Governor Ducey's [Stay Healthy, Return Smarter, Return Stronger](#) Executive Order does not change any of those temporary measures at this time. The flexibilities and alternative service delivery options will continue. DDD is working with AHCCCS and will let members and families know when a timeline is created for ending those temporary measures. There will be a ramp down period to ensure a smooth transition for members and vendors.

#### DDD OIFA Adds Behavioral Health Advocates

The DDD OIFA is excited to announce the addition of both an adult and child behavioral health advocate. The role of each position is to assist ALTCS members with behavioral health needs. This includes obtaining the needed services and assisting members and their families navigate the behavioral health services available through their DDD Health Plan. Ebony Atkinson is the Adult Behavioral Health Advocate and Kim Foy is the Child Behavioral Health Advocate. Talk to your Support Coordinator if you are having problems getting behavioral health services. They will contact Ebony or Kim to assist on your behalf.

#### DDD Weekly Town Hall Meetings

DDD is hosting virtual town hall meetings. DDD will present details about the plans and actions it is taking to support the health and safety of members, families, and workers in its system during the COVID-19 pandemic. Other information related to DDD programs and services will also be shared. Attendees can ask questions after the presentation.

The meeting is being hosted via WebEx. You can join by computer or phone:

- Date: Thursday, June 18, 2020
- Time: 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Website: <https://azgov.webex.com/azgov/j.php?MTID=m037e2978d9afd07849d23b1f-b627a6c9>
- Meeting number (access code): 283 462 328
- Meeting password: DDTH
- Join by phone: +1-602-666-0783 United States Toll (Phoenix) or +1-415-655-0003 US Toll



## DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

### A Toddler's Story of Inclusion

Wanting to fit in is a part of human nature. A sense of belonging and knowing there are others who share the same or similar experiences. Feeling included. That is what Oliver, a member of the DES Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) and the Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP) and his family experienced earlier this year. During a routine shopping trip with his mother at a West Valley Target store, Oliver stopped in his tracks and stared, smiling at a poster.

Although only two-years old, Oliver has amazing upper body strength. "He's really strong," said his mother. "He stopped his wheelchair...and I couldn't push him." It was a poster in the boys clothing department that made Oliver stop and stare. "He's seen wheelchairs [before] but he's never seen another child in a wheelchair. I think [he thought], 'There's a kid in a wheelchair like me!'"

Target and a handful of other retailers are depicting the full spectrum of their shoppers in their advertising. It's an element of being inclusive.

"I didn't think about this before, until I realized that it made a difference to him," said his mother. "A lot of places right now are starting to be inclusive with their adaptive clothing, adaptive shoes, adaptive line of just about anything, which is spectacular! Before all of this, we had felt quite a bit of segregation at kid places. So, we realize the importance of inclusive play. And how kids need to be taught, and parents as well. I think the world just needs to see this culture normalized."

### Arizona Attorney General Webinars

The Arizona Attorney General's office has published several webinars on a wide range of topics. Each webinar is focused on a topic specific to consumer protection. Examples of available topics include:

- Consumer Scams Involving COVID-19
- Internet Safety for Parents and Children
- Anti-Bullying for Parents and Children

The webinars are free to view and can be found on the Attorney General's website at <https://www.azag.gov/outreach/webinars> in the Recorded Webinars section.

### Like DDD On Facebook

Like DDD on Facebook, [@OfficialArizonaDDD](https://www.facebook.com/OfficialArizonaDDD), and stay connected to the latest news and events.

### Councils and Committees

There are many ways you can volunteer and positively impact the DD community. Visit the [DDD website](#) to see all the councils and committees you can volunteer to be on.





DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

*Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona*

## DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

### **DDD is Here to Help**

Please contact your Support Coordinator or the DDD Customer Service Center at 1-844-770-9500 ext. 1 (TTY/TDD 711) if you have questions.

Call the DDD Customer Service Center at 1-844-770-9500 ext. 1, TTY/TDD 711, to ask for this material in other formats. Language help is available at no cost to you.