TITLE: Health Care Advocacy Toolkit for People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

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STUDENT SUBMISSION: No

TOPIC/TARGET AUDIENCE: Health education and promotion professionals, medical professionals or representatives, public health students, and advocates

ABSTRACT: People with disabilities need health care and health programs for the same reasons anyone else does--to stay well, active, and a part of the community. Individuals experiencing intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) often encounter difficulty in obtaining the healthcare services that they need. In order to be healthy, people with disabilities require health care that meets their needs as a whole person, not just as a person with a disability. 1 In 2016, The Oregon Self-Advocacy Coalition (OSAC) members decided to create an Advocacy Toolkit to help their peers learn how to better advocate for their health and health care. Working with the state partners, the OSAC members created the "Taking Charge of My Health Care" Toolkit. The Toolkit consist of 9 modules that cover a variety of health and health care topics and is intended not only for people with IDD, but disability service providers and family members. The Toolkit includes written materials, PowerPoints, multiple resources, and videos and will be available online for anyone to access for individual or group learning.

  1 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2017). Disability and Health Healthy Living. https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/disabilityandhealth/healthyliving.html

OBJECTIVE(S): Describe the health disparities between people with and without disabilities.

Explain the need for engaging adults with I/DD in taking charge of their health and health care.

Identify one or more topics that are important for people with I/DD to understand when advocating for their health care.

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