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To: Christian Sacdalan
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July 2022 Edition

President George H.W. Bush signed the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) into law in 1990. This year marks the law's 32th anniversary; and, in the United States, July 26 is recognized annually as National Disability Independence Day, commemorating the day the ADA was signed.



The law has served as a type of Bill of Rights for people with disabilities by ensuring they share in access to economic and civic opportunities. The ADA is a civil rights law that prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in all areas of public life, including jobs, schools, transportation, and all public and private places that are open to the general public. The purpose of the law is to make sure that people with disabilities have the same rights and opportunities as everyone else.

Our colleague Darryl Drevna previously worked on an ADA issue that involved Medicare coverage for skilled nursing care or therapy. Medicare beneficiaries were being denied coverage of skilled care due to an "Improvement Standard" that resulted in claims being denied if full recovery or medical improvement was not possible. A coalition of stakeholders lobbied to change the standard, and, in 2013, a federal district court approved a settlement with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid

Services that confirmed Medicare coverage should be determined by a beneficiary's need for skilled care, not the individual's potential for improvement

Despite the progress that has been made in the more than 30 years since the ADA signing, more work needs be done, particularly in the area of employment. For example, despite the prohibition on employment discrimination, about 66% of the 22 million working-age Americans with disabilities are not in the workforce, according to a [2020 report by the National Council on Disability](#).

For more information visit [ADA.gov](https://www.ada.gov) to learn more. #ADA32 #ThanksToTheADA

Growing up with a deaf brother: Take a look inside Bruce Hadloc's experience with growing up with his brother who is deaf and how this has affected his family. [Click Here.](#)



Maternal Mental Health

Each May we recognize Maternal Mental Health Awareness Month. In many countries, as many as one in five new mothers experiences some type of perinatal mood and anxiety disorder (PMD). These illnesses frequently go unnoticed and untreated, often with tragic and long-term consequences to mothers, children, and fathers alike.

You can get involved in the chat around Maternal Mental Health Month on Twitter using the hashtag #MaternalMentalHealthMonth.

Eighty percent of new mothers report the “baby blues,” or intermittent periods of tearfulness, worry, irritability, and fatigue. Twenty percent of new mothers meet criteria for a pregnancy or postpartum mood disorder.

To address this issue, we need to raise public and professional awareness of [perinatal mental health problems](#), advocate for women affected by it, change attitudes, and help families access the information, care, and support they need to recover.

Resources of the Month

DE&I Committee May Picks

- [Asian Pacific Heritage Month](#)
- [12 Ways to Celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month](#)
- [AAPI Equity Alliance](#)
- [Asian Pride Project](#)
- [The National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance](#)
- [CBS Video: Understanding the History of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month](#)

Maternal Health

- [Videos: Maternal Mental Health NOW](#)
- [20/20 Mom](#)
- [Press Release: Into the Light for Maternal Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders Act of 2022](#)
- [SAMHSA Website](#)

Local Events and Resources:

- [Smithsonian Associates Events:](#) *Advocating for Community Through Culinary Traditions*
- [Virginia Resources:](#) *Virginia Asian Advisory Board*
- [Maryland Resources:](#) *Anti-Asian Hate Crimes Resource Center*

Raise Your Cultural IQ!

Did You Know?

[Video: Understanding what the term AAPI Asian American and Pacific Islanders means. Want to be an ally? Start by better understanding who makes up the community.](#)

Virtual Tours

- [Cherry Blossoms Around the World](#)
- [Asian Art Museum - San Francisco](#)
- [Kyoto National Museum](#)
- [Great Wall of China](#)
- [National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Korea](#)
- [National Museum of China](#)
- [Philippines, Manila 360 Virtual Tour](#)
- [Taj Mahal](#)
- [Angkor Wat](#)
- [Thailand](#)
- [Vietnam Heritage Sites](#)
- [Asian Art Museum – San Francisco](#)

- [D.C.: Asian American and Pacific Islanders Community Organization Directory](#)
- Oprah Daily: [Celebrate Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month with These 10 Books](#)

Do you have a resource you want to see in the next edition of the *DE&I Digest*? Next month, we'll be celebrating **Pride and Juneteenth**! Send resources to DEICommittee@amga.org for review by the DE&I Committee. Please ensure resources submitted are from reputable sources.

Questions? Comments? Suggestions? We'd love to hear from you! Email the DE&I Committee at DEICommittee@amga.org

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