There is No One Way

“As with many other marginalized communities, disabled artists and activists have always figured out how to exist and thrive in ways that may seem atypical or inferior by “normal” standards.”

Health Activism, Creative Practice, & the Medical Humanities

A symposium that explored the arts’ capacity to help us reimagine and produce individual and collective well-being. Crucial here is a consideration of how marginalized communities develop arts of knowing and doing health in conversation with and contestation of dominant biomedical models and institutions.

When the World is Remade, Make It Like Appalachia

“We live in a remote, rural area in central Appalachia. I joke darkly that everything is wonderful here except there are no jobs and no healthcare. The pandemic is exposing these sizeable gaps—who has care, who has nothing—compounded by race, class, and geography. But it’s also reinforcing for me why I have lived where I do for so long: in the face of the pandemic, my small community has supported each other, stronger than ever. With inequitable access to resources, we have always had to.”

Structural Racism, White Fragility, and Ventilator Rationing Policies

“It’s been painful to watch health leaders twist themselves into moral knots denying that recently created ventilator rationing guidance will differentially affect Blacks, Latinx, and other people of color ... Or repeat a policy’s assertions that race, ethnicity, disability, etc. are irrelevant to care decisions.”

More from Hastings Bioethics Forum on COIV-19

Ethics Talk: Disability Community Perspectives on COVID-19

- AMA Journal of Ethics. Alice Wong and Dr Joseph Stramondo join us on this special episode of Ethics Talk to discuss how perspectives from the disability community can help us think more powerfully about quality of life, resource allocation, and other ethical challenges arising in pandemics.

African American Policy Forum: COVID-19 "Under the Blacklight"

A series of symposiums that address the COVID-19 pandemic from an intersectional lens. Topics include ‘Mobilizing Whiteness to Re-Open America,’ ‘COVID in Confinement,’ ‘The Intersectional Failures that COVID Lays Bare’ and more.
Global Network Responses to COVID-19 Ethnicity Data

Black Lives Matter
“This virus is devastating to us. We are the essential workers who keep the country going; we are the mail carriers, delivery personnel, transportation providers, and hospital workers. We cannot just #stayhome. Yet, we represent the vast majority of COVID-related deaths in Chicago, Louisiana, and Michigan — Black people are dying at rates that are two and three times our population share — and that is only what we know right now, these numbers will increase as the virus continues to engulf our vulnerable communities.”

What Indian Country Remembers About Survival
“As the coronavirus spreads, North America’s Indigenous Peoples hold a unique experience of stress and fear because of this blood memory. In the 18th century, as European settlers sought to colonize Indigenous lands, they weaponized germs, giving blankets infected with smallpox to tribal communities to slow down Native resistance and to decimate Native populations. In addition to smallpox, measles and influenza were also brought to North America during these early periods of colonization. It is estimated that together these diseases killed 90% of Native Americans.”

Evaluation Framework for Crisis Standard of Care Plans
A document from leading disability advocacy organizations that goes into greater detail on the guidance issued by the HHS Office of Civil Rights.

COVID-19 Triage and Disability: What NOT To Do
“one core argument against some of the emerging COVID-19 triage protocols is that they are discriminatory against disabled people when they use criteria that deprioritize them because of a belief that their lives are of less value because they are of less quality.”

#WeAreEssential: Why Disabled People Should Be Appointed to Hospital Triage Committees
“we must now do everything we can to avoid a triage decision-making process that pushes disabled people to the side. One important action is to appoint people with disabilities, and especially those of color, to hospital triage committees.”

April 24, 2020 Letter to Expand Pay and Definition of Essential Care Workers
“We urge Congress to adopt an inclusive definition of who is an essential worker and require premium pay to all essential workers who must go to work during this pandemic.”

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Disability/Immunocompromised Communities  Marginalized Communities  Essential Care Workers
Experiencing Homelessness  Elder Communities  Indigenous Communities
Pregnancy
Disability, Creativity, and Care in the Time of COVID-19

“We are experiencing increased vulnerability, but, at the same time, our ingenuity, knowledge, and genius skills are suddenly relevant to the rest of humanity.”

Petra Kuppers in “The Leader” – Black Earth Institute

Petra Kuppers wants “her audiences to find the healing she has by learning about disability culture” which can help people to “find the strength in their own bodies,” especially as they face what she deemed the current “onslaught” of conditions such as the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic.

The Official Virtual Experience | Crip Camp

Topics include “Shedding Shame & Embracing Wholeness: Why We Must Address Internalized Ableism,” “Our Worth, Our Humanity: Disability Justice as a Spiritual Practice” and many more.

“Not Fragile”:

Survivor-Led Mutual Aid Projects Flourish in a Time of Crisis

the adaptability of people who have always been “at risk”

Sustaining the Well-Being of Healthcare Personnel during Coronavirus and other Infectious Disease Outbreaks

from the Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress

Southern Poverty Law Center

Statement on Passage of HEROES Act

“We commend members of the U.S House of Representatives for passing the HEROES Act. It is an important step to ensuring critical resources go to those who need it most, particularly communities of color in the deep South.”

National Alliance on Mental Illness

COVID-19 Resource and Information Guide

The coronavirus (COVID-19) has resulted in an unprecedented crisis that affects not only our physical health and daily lives, but also our mental health. To address these needs, NAMI is committed to providing credible information and resources to help people navigate through this crisis. In this guide, you will find answers to questions ranging from how to manage anxiety during this difficult time, to how to access medication while in quarantine, to how to deal with the loss of a loved one to COVID-19.

Disability/Immunocompromised Communities

Marginalized Communities

Essential Care Workers

Experiencing Homelessness

Elder Communities

Indigenous Communities

Pregnancy

Performing Public Health: Advisory | Remote Cultures | Unique Precarities

UNIQUE PRECARITIES: Disability & Immunocompromised

with support from ArtPlace America
White, Conservative, and Dumb’ — and Other Lies About Rural America
How rural organizers are building change in their communities by focusing on what politicians ignore: relationships.

Lessons in Belonging from Indigenous Leaders
“Indigenous peoples are rising up to care for their communities in beautiful ways, showing that resilience has lasted for centuries and will continue long after this pandemic has passed.

What can the world learn from us during this time? Why is being Indigenous important? We are a constant reminder that the land is always listening.

‘NoBodyisDisposable.org
“We are people targeted by triage plans during the COVID-19 pandemic — people with disabilities, fat people, old people, people with HIV/AIDS or other illnesses — and our loved ones who don’t want us to die. We partner with social justice and civil rights organizations, as well as medical professionals to demand policies that avoid triage and avoid discrimination in triage.”

Directory of Peer Respites
A peer respite is a voluntary, short-term, overnight program that provides community-based, non-clinical crisis support to help people find new understanding and ways to move forward. It operates 24 hours per day in a homelike environment. Successful peer respites are currently operating in California, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Massachusetts, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Vermont, and Wisconsin.

COMMUNITY ARTIST / ACTIVIST RESOURCES
- White, Conservative, and Dumb’ — and Other Lies About Rural America
- Lessons in Belonging from Indigenous Leaders
- ‘NoBodyisDisposable.org

ACADEMIC / MEDICAL / LEGAL RESOURCES
- Directory of Peer Respites
The indigenous communities that predicted Covid-19

“Indigenous leaders from Brazil and Indonesia emphasized the role that traditional knowledge, practices and land stewardship can play in protecting the planet. These protections, they said, extend not just to lessening climate change and biodiversity loss, but to reducing the risk of future pandemics.”

MAKE Studio . . . and making it work during COVID-19

Resources, virtual events, etc.

Coronavirus Resource Kit

This compilation features resources from disabled, queer, elderly, Asian, and indigenous people. Mutual aid projects from Seattle, Philadelphia, DC, Twin Cities, Boston, and Chicago have been added.

Many Undocumented Immigrants are Frontline Workers, But Their Families Can’t Get Government Aid

“Being called ‘essential’ doesn’t change the fact that we, as undocumented people, are having to keep this country running, but are also kept out of any government aid.”

contraCOVID

Contra COVID is an organization dedicated to helping Latino and immigrant families during this pandemic. We are a group of students and professionals from Harvard Medical School and medical institutions around the country who are dedicated to ensuring that Latino and immigrant individuals have the information they need to protect themselves and their families.
Sins Invalid
Many of us who are immunocompromised/suppressed or chemically injured have had to think about how many people we will encounter on any given day, what that will expose us to, and how it could impact our health. It’s an irony that the whole world is talking about and problem solving with us now. It’s painful that able bodied/minded people evidence their ableist privilege with frustration that air travel is inaccessible, that their schedules are impacted by others’ schedules, that they can’t do their normal social routines… Welcome to our world!

How to Survive Yet Another Plague
“So here are a few other lessons from living through HIV.”

What Lessons does the AIDS Crisis offer for the coronavirus pandemic?
“One lesson from AIDS was about the power of communities coming together to take care of one another, to touch one another, to act, using bodies—often frail bodies, always endangered bodies, sometimes even dead bodies—to fight.”

During COVID, Queer Folks Are Trying To Create Community & Joy
“There’s so much wisdom to be found,” McCarthy says of the richness of LGBTQ lives in quarantine. “Our queer elders and disabled fam show us how connection transcends physical space.”

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