



UNIQUE PRECARITIES: Essential Care Workers

COMMUNITY ARTIST / ACTIVIST RESOURCES

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.



Grieving Our Collective Loss—One Stitch at a Time

"...even though my life's work has prepared me to understand precisely this moment in history, I'm finding scholarly mechanisms too abstract in the face of material loss. There is an ever-growing, gaping maw of a "people-shaped hole in the universe" that I cannot feel."



Culture Surge

"We believe that artists and culture-makers are the visionary leaders needed to galvanize us towards a future rooted in justice, care, and connection."



Performance Despite the Pandemic:

Continuing to Create at the Intersection of Coronavirus, Crisis, and Care



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People Who Need to Take Extra Precautions - CDC



COVID-19 and The Naturalization of Vulnerability

"Seniors and elders in nursing homes and elsewhere aren't inherently vulnerable; nor are disabled people in institutions inherently vulnerable. Both of these groups (among others) are made vulnerable."



Ethics Talk: Disability Community Perspectives on COVID-19

AMA Journal of Ethics



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."



Disability/Immunocompromised Communities

Experiencing Homelessness

Marginalized Communities

Elder Communities

Pregnancy

Essential Care Workers

Indigenous Communities



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Naming the Lost NYC Artists Built Memorials with 24-hour Vigil

Physical memorials across NYC honor the lives lost to COVID-19. "Naming the Lost" was a 24-hour online national vigil to draw attention to the lack of a national mourning and to encourage attendees to unite across differences to ensure everyone receives the care they need.



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."



Center For Cultural Power - Confronting Crisis with Imagination

"If we get this right, we'll never go back to normal."



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."



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Infection Control Deficiencies Were Widespread and Persistent in Nursing Homes Prior to COVID-19 Pandemic

A detailed report from the U.S. Government Accountability Office: "Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, we found that most nursing homes were cited for infection prevention and control deficiencies (82% of those surveyed from 2013-2017). About half of these homes had persistent problems and were cited across multiple years."



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."



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What public health experts want critics to know about why they support the protests

“People are in the streets because they have to be,” Rhea Boyd, a pediatrician who works in California’s Bay Area, says. “Because that is how dire things are. Even in the setting of a pandemic, where it seems like being out there risks your life. There are so many risks on your life. You’ve got to be out there to try to protect it. People need, and black folks in particular, need a ton of changes to happen immediately.”



Public Health Experts say the pandemic is exactly why protests must continue.

Facing a slew of media requests asking about how protests might be a risk for COVID-19 transmission, a group of infectious disease experts at the University of Washington, with input from other colleagues, drafted a collective response. In an open letter published Sunday, they write that “protests against systemic racism, which fosters the disproportionate burden of COVID-19 on Black communities and also perpetuates police violence, must be supported.”



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.”



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#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.” [More from the Hastings Bioethics Forum on COVID-19](#)



Coronavirus and the Politics of Care - Law and Political Economy

“The most urgent need is for a new politics of care in this pandemic”



Achieving A Fair and Effective COVID-19 Response: An Open Letter to Vice-President Mike Pence, and Other Federal, State and Local Leaders from Public Health and Legal Experts in the United States

“The letter calls for direct interventions to try to reduce the precarity in which so many workers, carers, and migrants today in the US live, so that everyone is in a position to cooperate with recommendations that will benefit us all.”



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

from the Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress



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Caring for our caregivers during COVID-19

List of Resources from the American Medical Association



Open Letter Advocating for Anti-Racist Health Response

White supremacy is a lethal public health issue that predates and contributes to COVID-19. Black people are twice as likely to be killed by police compared to white people, but the effects of racism are far more pervasive. Black people suffer from dramatic health disparities in life expectancy, maternal and infant mortality, chronic medical conditions, and outcomes from acute illnesses like myocardial infarction and sepsis. Biological determinants are insufficient to explain these disparities.



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