



**CONSORTIUM FOR CITIZENS
WITH DISABILITIES**

Health Task Force 2021 Annual Report

I. Task Force Description

The CCD Health Task Force works to ensure access to high quality, accessible, affordable health care for people with disabilities and complex conditions of all ages that meets their individual needs and enables them to be healthy, live as independently as possible, and participate in the community. We work to promote access to comprehensive coverage and eliminate discrimination, disparities and inequities for people with disabilities within and across health care payers, providers, and systems.

II. Top 3 Issues the Task Force Worked On in 2021

1. COVID-19 data collection, vaccine access, and long-COVID
2. Health care and prescription drug provisions in Build Back Better
3. Telehealth

III. Top 3 Issues Identified for 2022

1. Advocacy to prevent discrimination in health care and health care benefits, including potential revisions to the ACA § 1557 rules
2. Protect and advance access to health care services for people with disabilities, including telehealth, post-acute care and rehabilitation, and behavioral health services. We will attend especially to issues related to care coordination, integration, and care transitions that often lead to barriers to accessing care.
3. Work to raise the profile of health equity concerns for people with disabilities. This includes:
 - a. pushing for Congressional action to expand access to care with a focus on health equity,
 - b. working with various administration officials and quality experts to advocate for improved health data collection and reporting, including quality reporting stratified

by disability and other key demographic characteristics to identify, track, and ultimately reduce health inequities.

- c. Other work that would identify and reduce health disparities for people with disabilities and people who face compound intersectional disparities in accessing needed care.

IV. Task Force Meetings

3rd Friday of the month at 10:30 AM eastern

V. 2021 Co-Chairs

- Caroline Bergner, American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
- Natalie Kean (stepping down as of January 2022), Justice in Aging
- David Machledt, National Health Law Program
- Peter Thomas, Powers Pyles Sutter & Verville PC

VI. Task Force Webpage Link

http://www.c-c-d.org/rubriques.php?rub=taskforce.php&id_task=6