

# Disability and Abuse Newsfeed

Week of April 7 – 4, 2017

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Articles are listed in alphabetical order by state, so you can easily scan through the articles for those within your state or other states in which you have an interest.

This week's collection of articles has an unusual array of articles! Check the categories below for a guide. As usual, the categories are indicated by type, and the number of the article. As you will see, there is an unusual number of article related to education.

Sexual Assault: 5, 13, 18

Physical Abuse: 4, 6, 8, 17, 87, 90

Verbal Abuse: 14

Neglect: 7, 10, 13, 16, 43

Missing: 15

Murder: 2, 19

Financial abuse: 21

Outright theft: 11, 12

School-related abuse: 2, 5, 10, 17, 87, 90

Related to education: 25, 62, 63

Guardianship: 73

**Good News: 29-37**    Funding: 70, 71    Miscellaneous: 38-42, 47-53

There are also a couple of articles of particular interest, including several on the impact of state budget cuts on housing and vocational services to people with disabilities: 68, 71, 81, 84, 86, 90, 97.

## ABUSE/NEGLECT

1. **Neighbors worry about incidents with clients from group home in NW Bakersfield.** Neighbors say they worry about safety, after another incident with a client from a group home in their area. It's on a street in northwest Bakersfield, and neighbors say there have been repeated calls for police when the clients are on the street, and apparently not with a care-giver. [bakersfieldnow.com](https://is.gd/bSsF3w), April 7 (California) <https://is.gd/bSsF3w>
2. **California school gunman shot special needs boy, 8.** An 8-year-old boy shot and killed along with his teacher in a San Bernardino special-education classroom was born with a genetic condition and had survived heart surgery, a school official said. [scotsman.com](https://is.gd/wh2mly), April 12 (California) <https://is.gd/wh2mly>
3. **\$4.5 million awarded in Davis group home neglect case.** A former resident of a children's group home in Northern California has been awarded nearly \$4.5 million after jurors found he was severely neglected by the home's caregivers while living at the facility. [montereyherald.com](https://is.gd/XFcudk), April 12 (California) <https://is.gd/XFcudk>
4. **Two group home workers arrested, accused of assaulting a disabled patient.** Hamden Police say they've arrested two "direct support staff members" at a group home after a report of abuse on a 19-year-old client. [fox61.com](https://is.gd/SDOEaR), April 8 (Connecticut) <https://is.gd/SDOEaR>
5. **Choate Rosemary Hall Acknowledges Years of Sexual Abuse: Report.** The report says that in some cases, the accused faculty member was allowed "to remain at the school ... for a considerable length of time" [nbccconnecticut.com](https://is.gd/ouUAV2), April 13 (Connecticut) <https://is.gd/ouUAV2>
6. **Group Home Employee Struck After 2 Residents Fight: Naugatuck Police.** Police said two local men were charged during the physical altercation. [patch.com](https://is.gd/TTSCvr), April 13 (Connecticut) <https://is.gd/TTSCvr>
7. **Concerns over Southington group home prompt meeting with police.** Neighbors of a Birchcrest Drive group home will meet with police next week over frequent calls at the facility for troubled girls. [myrecordjournal.com](https://is.gd/zRABhk), April 8 (Connecticut) <https://is.gd/zRABhk>
8. **North Miami cop charged in shooting of autistic man's unarmed therapist.** North Miami police officer who shot an autistic man's caretaker was charged Wednesday with attempted manslaughter, authorities said. [sun-sentinel.com](https://is.gd/NsNE7y), April 13 (Florida) <https://is.gd/NsNE7y>

9. **Quiet rooms for autistic children popping up at airports.** Quiet rooms for children on the autism spectrum are popping up at airports. chicagotribune.com, April 12 (Illinois) <https://is.gd/sXmY5k>
10. **Two arrested after 10-year-old child with special needs left on school bus.** Two have been arrested after a 10 year old child with special needs was left on a Monroe bus. Monroe Police have arrested the bus driver, Christopher Yates, 34 of Downsville, and the attendant, Vicky Hampton, 54 of Monroe. myarklamiss.com, April 10 (Louisiana) <https://is.gd/NCiBZt>
11. **Teen's wheelchair stolen while he was getting treatment at hospital.** A Massachusetts family that spent a long winter in Minnesota getting medical treatment is coming home to a major financial loss. wcvb.com, April 11 (Massachusetts) <https://is.gd/d5t5Qp>
12. **Van, Wheelchair Belonging to Special Needs Teen Stolen.** The price to replace it all could be as high as \$60,000. necn.com, April 12 (Massachusetts) <https://is.gd/Mp20X6>
13. **Police: Upstate NY disability center employee poses as social worker to commit rape.** A Broome County Developmental Center employee is facing multiple felony and misdemeanor charges after he posed as a social worker to commit rape, police say. newyorkupstate.com, April 12 (New York) <https://is.gd/zszU5g>
14. **Former Miss Montana pageant winner and special education teacher under investigation for derogatory tweets about students, parents.** A North Dakota middle school special education teacher and former pageant champion is being investigated by her school district for off-color social media posts pertaining to her role as an educator. nydailynews.com, April 9 (North Dakota) <https://is.gd/bHifCr>
15. **Westlake police search for missing man with developmental disabilities.** The Westlake Police Department is asking for the public's help locating a man who developmental disabilities. fox8.com, April 6 (Ohio) <https://is.gd/iwUami>
16. **Calls from DHS homes for adolescents show assaults, vandalism, violent outbursts.** Police reports from Oklahoma group homes contracted by the Department of Human Services to care for troubled adolescents in state custody show a pattern of violent outbursts, assaults on staff and vandalism. tulsaworld.com, April 9 (Oklahoma) <https://is.gd/BuINvH>
17. **State education officials are investigating an incident in which a 9-year-old was handcuffed at school.** The state Department of Education is looking into

Joseph A. Craig Charter School's use of handcuffs to restrain a fourth grader. thelensnola.org, April 6 (Louisiana) <https://is.gd/H6jIEf>

18. **Princeton Prof. Claims Raping Man With Cerebral Palsy OK if He Doesn't Understand 'Consent'**. A tenured Ivy League professor who defends infanticide and bestiality as ethical acts is suggesting that because a mentally disabled person cannot understand the concept of consent to sex, raping that person might not be harmful. christianpost.com April 6 (New Jersey) <https://is.gd/fZ8igS>
19. **Man In Wheelchair Hit And Killed By Vehicle In Fort Worth**. A man in a wheelchair was struck by a vehicle late Friday evening in the 4500 block of Lancaster Avenue. Police say the man was in a lane traffic when he was hit by a vehicle. He was transported to John Peter Smith hospital where he was pronounced dead from his injuries. cbslocal.com, April 9 (Texas) <https://is.gd/PpD5db>
20. **Group home destroyed by fire. A Monday afternoon fire gutted a group home in Northampton County**. The fire broke out shortly after 4 p.m. in the 3100 block of Pheasant Drive in Moore Township. The 69 News Quadcopter captured crews from several fire departments battling the fire at the home run by LifePath. LifePath serves people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. wfmz.com, April 10 (Pennsylvania) <https://is.gd/TdfjY>
21. **Former Collegeville lawyer charged with stealing from special-needs clients**. A disbarred lawyer from Montgomery County has been charged with stealing money from clients with special needs. Patrick J. Bradley, 45, of Collegeville, hired as the trustee for trust accounts or to do legal work on their behalf, allegedly took more than \$145,000 from 12 clients. philly.com, April 12 (Pennsylvania) <https://is.gd/Mp20X6>

## IMPROVED SUPPORTS & MISCELLANEOUS

22. **Becky, Barbie's friend who uses a wheelchair, was discontinued. Here's why**. Last year, Mattel announced that it was giving Barbie a makeover — introducing new body shapes, skin tones and even flat feet to make the iconic doll look more realistic. “Barbie reflects the world girls see around them,” Mattel president and COO Richard Dickson said. pri.org, April 9 <https://is.gd/axXrP1>
23. **Developmental, behavioral issues more common among rural children**. Rural children from small communities exhibited a higher prevalence of mental, behavioral and developmental disorders than children living in cities and suburbs, according to data from the CDC's *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*. healio.com, April 8 <https://is.gd/7wXRss>

24. **Stem Cell Therapy for Autism Shows Promise.** A stem cell treatment for autism shows promise, according to a new study, but the investigators and other experts emphasize that the therapy is still in the early stages and much more research is needed. webmd.com, April 6 <https://is.gd/J52jpk>
25. **Special education services by branch.** Each military branch offers slightly different services in support of its special-needs families. Here's how officials describe their work. Not all branches supplied numbers of special-needs families. stripes.com, April 13 <https://is.gd/fq1u9H>
26. **After Daughter's Death, Mother Finds Comfort in Nonprofit That Serves Children with Developmental Disabilities.** In 1946, a small group of Los Angeles parents who had children with special needs couldn't find a good daycare program, so they decided to start their own. Now 70 years later, the Exceptional Children's Foundation has grown to 15 locations and serves 3,500 families — all for free. nbclosangeles.com, April 9 (California) <https://is.gd/Mi8bQy>
27. **Deaf gorilla at Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens helps hearing-impaired kids.** A gorilla at the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens is inspiring children who are deaf or hard of hearing. Kumbuka is getting national attention after Nemours Children's Hospital ENT and Audiology team performed an Auditory Brainstem Response test, which measures the hearing nerve's response to sounds. actionnewsjax.com, April 7 (Florida) <https://is.gd/z24dff>
28. **Lauded Saucedo Special Education Teacher Suspended, Could Be Fired.** A lauded special education teacher at Maria Saucedo Scholastic Academy in Little Village soon could be fired, and parents across the city are fighting her ouster. dnainfo.com, April 11 (Illinois) <https://is.gd/ABDoIU>
29. **Saving easier for people with disabilities, treasurer says.** Families with a child with a disability may find it easier to save for future expenses, thanks to a program that has expanded to Illinois. pantagraph.com, April 12 (Illinois) <https://is.gd/cWLnN7>
30. **When workers with disabilities pay dividends.** Former exec tells AU audience about Walgreens program. heraldbulletin.com, April 9 (Indiana) <https://is.gd/fc6Tmc>
31. **Overhaul at School for the Blind Turns Complaints to Praise.** Parents say that new administration at the Kentucky School for the Blind has transformed the state institution for the better. usnews.com, April 7 (Kentucky) <https://is.gd/W97fYU>
32. **Dad inspired to run Boston Marathon after unborn daughter's Down syndrome diagnosis.** An expectant father will race through the streets of Boston on Marathon Monday in honor of his unborn daughter who was diagnosed with Down

syndrome at 11 weeks gestation. foxnews.com, April 13 (Massachusetts)  
<https://is.gd/GRwOHE>

33. **Harford special needs school seeks zoning variance to expand.** The operator of a Belcamp/Riverside area private school that serves students with special needs is seeking a zoning variance from Harford County to expand the school's capacity from 45 to 60 students. baltimoresun.com, April 8 (Maryland) <https://is.gd/H7Nfyi>
34. **Tracking Bracelet Helps Family of Man With Autism.** A Maryland family has secure doors and windows and an alarm system that goes off when someone exits, but their son still manages to make his way outside. John Bucknam, a Rockville, Maryland, man with autism, has wandered as far as 5 miles from home. The disappearances strike fear in his parents. nbcwashington.com, April 10 (Maryland) <https://is.gd/sg6Sb0>
35. **Meet the 24-Year-Old Amputee Changing the Face of Yoga.** This March, Kelsey Koch, 24, accomplished a major goal: She opened her own yoga studio in her hometown of Grand Blanc, Michigan. self.com, April 6 (Michigan ) <https://is.gd/qQiV05>
36. **Mother hopes to open salon for people with disabilities.** A Twin Cities, Minnesota mother launched a fundraising campaign to open a first-of-its-kind salon catering to people who use wheelchairs and people who live with disabilities. nbc4i.com, April 13 (Minnesota) <https://is.gd/GBI570>
37. **Disability rights activist visits Rochester to discuss 'self-direction'.** One disability rights activist says that often people are too quick to assume someone with a disability can't make their own decisions. wxxinews.org, April 9 (New York) <https://is.gd/kMC2f4>
38. **Special Ed School Vouchers May Come With Hidden Costs.** For many parents with disabled children in public school systems, the lure of the private school voucher is strong. Vouchers for special needs students have been endorsed by the Trump administration, and they are often heavily promoted by state education departments and by private schools, which rely on them for tuition dollars. nytimes.com, April 11 (New York) <https://is.gd/timBaX>
39. **Only a third of N.J. autistic teens get a driver's license by age 21.** Only a third of N.J. teenagers with Autism Spectrum Disorder get their driver's license by the age of 21 - far below the rate for non-autistic teens, say three researchers who have studied the state's drivers. nj.com, April 11 (New Jersey) <https://is.gd/kDixja>
40. **New Jersey Teens With Disabilities Get Fit for Later Life.** With the help of an innovative physical education class at William Paterson University, teenagers with

disabilities are getting good workouts and living healthier, more integrated lives. usnews.com, April 9 (New Jersey) <https://is.gd/Cyp1rr>

41. **Cincinnati Children's Hospital recruiting families for nation's largest autism study.** Researchers hope to get DNA samples from 50,000 families. wlwt.com, April 10 (Ohio) <https://is.gd/avp8uC>
42. **Evant Inc., care provider for 24 Summit County group homes, going out of business, terminating 200 jobs.** A care provider for 24 group homes for residents with disabilities in Summit County is going out of business. Nearly 200 employees will be laid off. ohio.com, April 12 (Ohio) <https://is.gd/3Sw4e7>
43. **People with disabilities sue DHS over cuts to in-home care.** A group of people with disabilities claim the Oregon Department of Human Services arbitrarily cut the number of in-home care hours they need to meet their basic medical and social needs. bizjournals.com, April 11 (Oregon) <https://is.gd/34kYqd>
44. **Central Oregon schools miss special ed graduation goal.** Bend-La Pine Schools graduated 63 percent of special ed students within four years. bendbulletin.com, April 8 (Oregon) <https://is.gd/mDqFSN>
45. **New ABLE savings program increases independence for people with disabilities, advocates say.** A long-standing barrier to Pennsylvania residents with disabilities fell this week with the start of Achieving a Better Life Experience, a program that lets them save up to \$14,000 a year while receiving government benefits. lancasteronline.com, April 9 (Pennsylvania) <https://is.gd/hmTNCh>
46. **Counties must ID imprisoned mentally ill.** About 2 million people with serious mental illnesses are committed to county jails and state prisons across the country each year, according to the Council of State Governments Justice Center. standardspeaker.com, April 8 (Pennsylvania) <https://is.gd/8EQQzK>
47. **University of Pittsburgh group invents wheelchair powered by compressed air.** Years ago in Germany, Rory Cooper learned from the director of a production, engineering and automation institute about motors powered by compressed air. It got him thinking. post-gazette.com, April 7 (Pennsylvania) <https://is.gd/5Xs45U>
48. **DreamWrights debuts special-needs theater workshop.** They sang, they danced, they conquered. "My mama told me when I was young," sang Kameron Baldwin, 15, "we are all born superstars." ydr.com, April 8 (Pennsylvania) <https://is.gd/Q6VOF1>

49. **Housing options help autistic adults find independence.** Masha Gregory was nervous to move out of her parents' home and into her own place, where the 26-year-old Pennsylvania woman worried about making friends and being away from her parents. abcnews.go.co, April 8 (Pennsylvania) <https://is.gd/i1x7o5>
50. **Brookings Eagle Scout Builds Garden Raised Beds for Handicapped.** A Brookings eagle scout is making gardening possible for people who are handicapped. The idea came from his mother's coworker, who suggested that building a bed raised garden would be a good scout project. kdlt.com, April 8 (South Dakota) <https://is.gd/fu6dD8>
51. **Housing Options Help Autistic Adults Find Independence.** Innovative housing developments are popping up across the U.S. to serve those diagnosed with autism as children amid increased awareness about the disorder and changes in how it's defined. usnews.com, April 8 (Texas) <https://is.gd/yx4Fd4>
52. **Provo teen raises money to buy nearly 400 wheelchairs for those in need, passes tradition on to sister.** After eight years, hundreds of wheelchairs and thousands of cookies, 14-year-old Zack Francom is ready to pass the torch. ksl.com, April 13 (Utah) <https://is.gd/kYvk61>
53. **E.B. Stanley Middle School special education students developing workplace skills.** An Abingdon school is part of the effort to turn around the lack of job opportunities for people with disabilities. E.B Stanley Middle School takes their special education students on regular 'Field Trips to Work', where they learn vital work and social skills. wcyb.com, April 7 (Virginia) <https://is.gd/9Qs160>

## LEGISLATION/LAWS

54. **Disabled Riders Sue BART Over Lack Of 'Full, Equal' Access.** BREAKING: Transit officials said they share same concerns and are working toward clean-up, improvements and upgrades. patch.com, April 7 (California) <https://is.gd/Ew8Fhc>
55. **Salinas police car parked in handicapped spot irks some.** The Salinas Police Department sustained a public relations black eye when one of its officers was photographed parking in a handicapped spot. ksbw.com, April 12 (California) <https://is.gd/RaXpvS>
56. **Judge certifies Shasta County Jail lawsuit as 'class action'.** A lawsuit against the Shasta County Jail has now reached class action status. That means more people could join the lawsuit which alleges civil rights abuses against people with disabilities. krctrv.com, April 13 (California) <https://is.gd/Y13IMt>



**57. Developmental Disability Providers Continue Push For More Funding.**

Providers for those with developmental disabilities are pressuring Arizona lawmakers to set aside more money for them in next year's budget. They say without the extra funding the state's new minimum wage could put many of them out of business. kjzz.org, April 12 (Arizona) <https://is.gd/LRVrua>

**58. Long Beach settles Disability Act suit, will pay millions to repair**

**sidewalks.** Long Beach will be required to spend roughly \$200 million over three decades to bring its curbs and sidewalks into compliance with Americans With Disability Act mandates, attorneys announced this week. presstelegram.com, April 12 (California) <https://is.gd/jdMvrK>

**59. High Court Decision Can Impact Special Education.**

A United States Supreme Court ruling concerning the standard that school districts must meet in creating an Individual Educational Plan (IEP) for a special education student gives parents a stronger case in insisting that the districts do more than just a minimum program. independentnews.com, April 6 (California) <https://is.gd/VEsl4L>

**60. Federal lawsuit filed against Jacksonville Sheriff's Office; deaf woman**

**says she was denied services.** A lawsuit accuses the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office of violating federal law for not providing services to a local woman, Cassandra Kinney, who is deaf. The woman asked for a sign-language interpreter on several occasions. Her attorney said JSO didn't make one available even after her arrest. actionnewsjax.com, April 13 (Florida) <https://is.gd/qmnXDc>

**61. Handicapped Eustis woman fights apartment remodeling nightmare.**

Bambi Nicholson used to love her apartment at Colony Court in Eustis but recent remodeling by management at the complex has caused her serious problems. Nicholson uses a wheelchair to get around and her apartment is government subsidized. wftv.com, April 7 (Florida) <https://is.gd/n7NMG9>

**62. Are students with special needs properly restrained while being**

**transported?** The Sarasota County school district has about 35 busses to handle students with special needs. Some of the special needs buses have safety seats, that would handle a child that may be smaller. wtsp.com, April 11 (Florida) <https://is.gd/pnQDnK>

**63. Rose-Hulman student lawsuit alleges abuse from professors.**

A student with Auditory Processing Disorder, which affects a person's ability to understand spoken language, has sued Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology in Terre Haute, saying it failed to accommodate his disability. indystar.com, April 7 (Indiana) <https://is.gd/1wkZf1>

**64. Amputee to receive \$160K in settlement with city over traffic stop.** An amputee injured during a 2011 traffic stop where police unlawfully forced him from his car will receive \$160,000 in a lawsuit settlement with the city of Lincoln. journalstar.com, April 10 (Nebraska) <https://is.gd/4fysWg>

**65. Moore beheading suspect ruled “not intellectually disabled,” still eligible for execution.** The man charged of beheading a coworker was ruled not intellectually disabled Friday afternoon. That means 32-year-old Alton Nolen will still be eligible for execution. kfor.com, April 7 (Oklahoma) <https://is.gd/XPLQI>

**66. School system won't allow man with Down syndrome to attend prom.** A Muskogee High School senior wants to be able to take a friend to prom with her on Saturday. But, Muskogee Public Schools officials say that because of his age, that friend won't be allowed to attend. muskogeephoenix.com, April 7 (Oklahoma) <https://is.gd/4tc2wl>

**67. Madison Heights building owner agrees to modifications under Americans with Disabilities Act.** The owner of a Madison Heights office building has agreed to make a number of modifications to resolve allegations that it was in violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of Michigan announced the settlement agreement with Fill Building Associates, owner of the office building at 27301 Dequindre Road. dailytribune.com, April 12 (Michigan) <https://is.gd/VXVGrU>

**68. Deaf Patrons Complain Movie Theater Won't Turn on Captions.** Some deaf and hearing-impaired moviegoers say a Rhode Island theater refused to switch on the captioning so they could follow along with Disney's "Beauty and the Beast.". usnews.com, April 9 (Rhode Island) <https://is.gd/8JilFW>

**69. Photo shows KFD vehicle parked in a handicap parking space.** An Anderson County woman captured a Knoxville Fire Department Logistics truck illegally parked in a handicap parking space Thursday. local8now.com, April 7 (Tennessee) <https://is.gd/CoXpic>

**70. Texas families fear closure of state homes for people with disabilities.** Legislators are considering a bill that would create a commission tasked with determining the fate of Texas’ 13 state supported living centers by 2018. texastribune.org, April 6 (Texas) <https://is.gd/2zJoiN>

**71. Millions of dollars in Medicaid cuts to disability services proposed.** In what could be another blow to people with disabilities, the state has proposed millions of dollars in Medicaid cuts to in-home services for people with intellectual disabilities. statesman.com, April 6 (Texas) <https://is.gd/X7I1WA>

**72. Local woman sues 5 businesses over ADA violation claims.** A quadriplegic woman from New Hampton has sued five local businesses in federal court claiming they violated the Americans with Disabilities Act, employing a controversial lawyer who has filed hundreds of ADA lawsuits on behalf of a small group of plaintiffs over the past decade. recordonline.com, April 9 (New York) <https://is.gd/bSPNob>

**73. High Court Orders Review of New Mexico's Guardianship System.** The New Mexico Supreme Court has created a 16-member commission to study the state's guardianship system and recommend improvements. usnews.com, April 7 (New Mexico) <https://is.gd/tT1obn>

**74. Legislature passes bill to combat vulnerable adult abuse.** State Attorney General Bob Ferguson's bipartisan legislation to combat the financial exploitation and neglect of vulnerable adults in Washington passed the Senate on Monday by a unanimous vote. rentonreporter.com, April 12 (Washington) <https://is.gd/bFbrsp>

**75. SCOTUS Ruling On Intellectual Disability Is Monumental.** Many groups are overlooked in the American political context and the intellectually disabled are certainly no exception. wfuogb.com, April 7 <https://is.gd/aip3tc>

**76. Justice rallies to keep funding for disabled and seniors.** Governor Jim Justice said he stands with the families of disabled youth and senior citizens who benefit from a Medicaid waiver program that helps them pay for in-home care. wvmetronews.com, April 6 (West Virginia) <https://is.gd/P4xlvv>

## INTERNATIONAL

**77. Human Rights Commission calls STM's lack of handicapped accessibility "poor service".** A group fighting for the rights of disabled Montrealers is criticizing a recent ruling by the Quebec Commission of Human Rights that said the STM's lack of accessibility for the handicapped was not discrimination. montreal.ctvnews.ca, April 11 (Canada) <https://is.gd/mYe3tu>

**78. Saskatoon police investigating inappropriate voicemail.** The Saskatoon Police Service is investigating one of its own after an inappropriate voicemail was left on a local man's cellphone. Bronek Hart had filed a police report in November of 2016 after about \$400 in valuables were stolen from his company truck. saskatoon.ctvnews.ca, April 6 (Canada) <https://is.gd/TmN3TD>

**79. Ecuador Elects World's Only Head of State in a Wheelchair.** Lenín Moreno, Ecuador's president-elect, has described being a paraplegic as a blessing. People who walk,

he explained a few years ago, keep their gaze trained forward and upward. nytimes.com, April 7 (Ecuador) <https://is.gd/ZQOzsx>

**80. Munster PD launches special needs awareness program.** Emergencies can happen in the blink of an eye and first responders need to assess the situation quickly. When those emergencies involve someone of any age with special needs, the situation can become even more critical. nwitimes.com, April 8 (Germany) <https://is.gd/n4Se36>

**81. Disability Alliance not happy with facilities at booths.** Members of Disability Alliance India on Saturday inspected polling booths in RK Nagar and expressed dissatisfaction over drinking water, toilet and ramp facilities provided in schools converted as polling booths. deccanchronicle.com, April 9 (India) <https://is.gd/FKUgoX>

**82. Party drug ketamine should be used as antidepressant in special clinics: Experts.** Experts think there is an urgent need for ethical and innovative action by doctors to prescribe ketamine under controlled conditions. hindustantimes.com, April 7 (India) <https://is.gd/sYCNHc>

**83. Ramps in R.K. Nagar polling booths steep, say disability rights activists.** Nearly two weeks after conducting an access audit of the R.K. Nagar polling stations, disability rights activists on Saturday went on another round to check if steps had been taken to improve access for the disabled. thehindu.com, April 8 (India) <https://is.gd/2vZEgV>

**84. Severe Infection Risk Exceptionally High in Schizophrenia.** For schizophrenia patients, rates of severe infection are much higher than in the general population. The findings underscore the need for infection prevention guidance in this highly vulnerable population. medscape.com, April 6 (Italy) <https://is.gd/lXkYye>

**85. Titahi Bay family dismayed as girls pursue intellectually disabled man for money at all hours.** A Titahi Bay family are at their wits' end after trying to deter teenage girls from pursuing their intellectually disabled son for money. The Kowalewski family has had three teens trespassed, and installed a security camera with alarm at their home, but are still bothered by night-time visitors knocking on the bedroom window of the 57-year-old man, who is cared for by IHC New Zealand and lives with his elderly mother. stuff.co.nz, April 10 (New Zealand) <https://is.gd/CWBXTV>

**86. Cotton: People With Autism Can Live Regular Lives Once Tested, Trained Early.** The earlier a child is tested for autism, the sooner corrective measures can be taken making them more effective says Clarice Cotton, former Principal of the Cotton-Thomas School for Children with Special Needs. winnfm.com, April 12 (St Kitts) <https://is.gd/rZzGF5>

**87. Calls for transparency after disabled pupils were restrained 419 times in three years.** A Tayside disability campaigner has called for clearer recording of injuries sustained in special schools after it emerged Dundee pupils were restrained on average four times a week last year. thecourier.co.uk, April 14 (UK) <https://is.gd/iAxNL8>

**88. Quality of staffing at Aberdeenshire care home 'weak'.** An inspection of Pitmurchie House, near Torphins, found there was a significant turnover of staff and some concerns and allegations had gone unreported. Two months prior to the inspection the staff turnover had been about 40%. bbc.com, April 6 (Scotland) <https://is.gd/YOTnWT>

**89. Disability rights groups slam UK Gov for falling living standards in week of "catastrophic" cuts.** CAMPAIGNERS for disabled people's rights have slammed the UK Government after a week which has seen a fresh tranche of major welfare cuts and mounting evidence in the decline of living standards among disabled people and other groups affected by austerity. commonspace.scot, April 7 (UK) <https://is.gd/AQNhtZ>

**90. Hundreds of 'restraint injuries' at special schools.** Some youngsters were pinned face-down on the floor, while others were strapped into chairs. The figures revealed at least 731 injuries in the past three years. bbc.com, April 9 (UK) <https://is.gd/QvZfrj>

**91. Behind the 'mask': early diagnosis crucial in autistic girls.** First, it was the clothes Ella's parents noticed. The little girl would tell her parents nothing fitted quite right; she wanted her shoes and clothes to feel "tighter". theage.com.au, April 7 (UK) <https://is.gd/QcY6JX>

**92. Politicians are stealthily trying to take control of social work.** This week politically chosen austerity really bites hard. In a society where inequality continues to deepen into chasms of despair, the government is ploughing ahead with plans laid by the previous prime minister and chancellor, with bereaved families and low-paid working families with more than two children joining the growing numbers of the poor. theguardian.com, April 7 (UK) <https://is.gd/6eKoxL>

**93. Mentally ill mother who jumped off cliff with newborn did not get help from medics because she was 'articulate' and 'middle class', review finds.** Charlotte Bevan, 30, vanished from St Michael's Hospital in Bristol with four-day-old Zaani Tiana Bevan Malbrouck on December 2 in 2014. telegraph.co.uk, April 6 (UK) <https://is.gd/z210kK>

**94. Woman becomes first frontline nurse in a wheelchair.** Michelle Quested, 33, lost the use of her legs in a car accident seven years ago. But the dedicated nurse was determined not to let her disability get in the way of her clinical work at Birmingham Children's Hospital. http://metro.co.uk, April 8 (UK) <https://is.gd/iwFGFy>

95. **Patients with learning disabilities missing out on health checks.** Patients in England with learning disabilities are missing out on vital health checks, NHS data shows. bbc.com, April 8 (UK) <https://is.gd/UITMUp>

96. **Virtual reality may be a help to autistic children in the classroom.** Virtual realities now have the possibilities to be turned into real life scenarios. independent.co.uk, April 14 (UK) <https://is.gd/5IZXU1>