



Online Center for Safety

Welcome to the Living Safely with Disabilities and special health needs online center for safety.

This website can be accessed anytime by visiting www.rwjbh.org/cshlivingsafely

While visiting this website, you can use the accessibility features to help enhance your experience based on your individual needs.

The Living Safely website is full of safety information and resources.

When visiting the site, you will see four categories. The first is Safety Resources, then Safety Tools, Community Safety Conversations, and Safety Advocacy and Information.

Let's take a look at the Safety Resources section.

In this section, you will find many safety topics, each containing a variety of resources.

As you scroll down the page, you will find Community Safety, Emergency Preparedness and Response, Fire Safety, Health and Health Care, Home Safety, Internet and Technology, Law Enforcement, Personal Safety, and Recreation Safety. The resources in these categories have been written and presented in ways to provide safety information and encourage the use of safety skills to prevent injuries.

It is important that safety information and resources are understandable, accessible, and relevant for everyone. Everyone has a different style of learning.

The majority of the resources within Living Safely are available in multiple formats, based on your preference and learning style. These formats include Text Only, Audio Only, Narrated Picture Stories, Text with images, and Picture stories.

Now let's take a peek in the Safety Tools section.

Here you will find some helpful tools that you can personalize to support your safety. These can be used as part of your safety plan, shared with local emergency responders, and/or used to support safety education.

The next section is: Community Safety Conversations.

It is important to prevent injuries and be prepared for emergencies. Emergency responders and law enforcement are there for the safety of all residents, including those with disabilities. It is helpful for them to have the information and resources they need to keep everyone in the community safe.

Local emergency responders, residents who have disabilities, and parents and caregivers of people with disabilities are encouraged to take the time to connect on a regular basis to discuss any individual safety issues and needs

Also, in this section, are safety conversation templates which provide talking points to guide safety conversations between disabled people, caregivers, and responders. You will find one for fire safety, rescue squads, public safety and law enforcement, and emergency preparedness.

Now let's look in the last section: Safety Advocacy and Information

As you scroll down on this page you will find four sections.

The first section is: The Coalition for Living Safely with Disabilities and Special Health Needs.

This LinkedIn group represents a diverse network of disabled advocates, organizations, agencies, emergency responders, academics, researchers, justice activists, and other safety stakeholders who are committed to action to encourage more inclusive safety, practices, education, research, and policies. This coalition supports collaboration so that we can work together to reduce and prevent injuries, inclusively.

Next you will find a series of public service announcements to raise awareness and increase knowledge about several safety areas. These include, Talking about Living Safely with Disabilities which has tips geared to disabled people, to emergency responders, and to the general community; Safety Signs and Symbols; Advocating for School Safety; Poison Prevention and Education; Water Safety; Including People with Disabilities in Emergency Preparedness; Preparing for Emergencies with NJ Register Ready; School Emergency Preparedness; and Elopement and Being Lost.

The next section provides a selection of documents that identify important safety issues that involve people with disabilities. Focused for safety officials and community leaders, each guidance document provides information about the issue as well as recommendations.

The Living Safely guidance documents include recommendations for Inclusive Community Planning, Accessible Safety Resources, Provider Safety Training, Safety Education, and Local Emergency Preparedness.

The last section in this category is called Inclusion in Innovation.

To better understand safety and safety education issues and to develop recommendations for inclusive safety education and training, the Living Safely team facilitated an *Inclusion in Innovation Summit*. Each summit session, co-led by a disabled advocate and subject matter expert, discussed important safety topics. The information from the summit was gathered together into an Inclusion in Innovation

whitepaper. This document recommends best practices for inclusive safety education and training using developing technology, and it provides a call to action for more collaborative research. These recommendations have the potential to improve safety and prevent injuries and it can support improved preparedness and response practices for emergency responders.

We hope you enjoyed this overview of the Living Safely Online Center for Safety. The educational resources, videos, and advocacy tools are here for you to use anytime. Access them to learn more about safety, use them within your safety education, and share them with safety professionals to support community safety practices.

We'd love to know the ways you are using the Living Safely resources.

The Living Safely email address is LivingSafely@childrens-specialized.org. Please let us know what you think and let's live safely together.

For more Living Safely resources, visit www.rwjbh.org/cshlivingsafely

We value the expertise of our partners in safety who have demonstrated their commitment to inclusive healthy communities.

Let's Live Safely Together!

The information contained in *Living Safely with Disabilities and Special Health Needs (Living Safely)* is provided for educational and informational purposes only. The content contains general information and may not reflect a person's individual needs or current legal developments or information. Children's Specialized Hospital makes no guarantee, either communicated or implied, about the accuracy, application, appropriateness, or completeness of the information within *Living Safely*, or at any other website to which it is linked. Children's Specialized Hospital specifically relinquishes all liability with respect to any person's actions, taken or not taken, based upon any or all of the information or other contents from *Living Safely*.

Children's Specialized Hospital, an RWJBarnabas Health facility, is the nation's leading provider of inpatient and outpatient care for children from birth to 21 years of age facing special health care challenges – from chronic illnesses and complex physical disabilities like brain and spinal cord injuries, to a full scope of developmental, behavioral, and mental health concerns.

This initiative was funded in part by an Inclusive Healthy Communities grant from the Division of Disability Services, New Jersey Department of Human Services.
nj.gov/humanservices/dds/home