

Tailoring Your Knowledge Translation Strategies for Your Intended Users

KTDRR's 2023 Virtual KT Conference

November 6, 8, and 9

Center on
**KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION FOR
DISABILITY & REHABILITATION RESEARCH**



Center for Rehabilitation
Outcomes Research

Creating an Accessible Document from a Policy Brief

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Agenda



- Introduce our policy brief
 - Why is an easy-read version important?
 - Components of easy read
- Our Easy-Read Document
 - Components
 - Strengths, challenges and takeaways
 - Resources

CROR Policy Brief



“The Influence of Disability Models on Person-Centeredness in Home and Community-Based Services” – By our RRTC on HCBS, late 2022

BUT...

To get something out of it, the reader needs to be well-versed in concepts like disability models, HCBS, person-centeredness and laws affecting HCBS.

Why Make a Policy Brief Accessible?



- Knowledge is translated for the people whom research is supposed to impact.
- All should be able to access
 - Equity
 - Hearing/seeing things in basic terms

What Is an Easy-Read Document?



- A format that is accessible and uses easy-to-understand language and pictures or icons

Main Components of an Accessible Document: Easy Read



- Glossary, definitions or “words to know” page
- Reading level
 - 3–4 for easy read and 5–8 for plain language
 - Active voice is much better than passive voice

Main Components of an Accessible Document: Easy Read (cont'd)



- Large font (14 point minimum)
- Bullet points
 - One idea per line
- Icons or pictures
 - Clean and clear layout

Reading Level



Easy Read

- Third to fourth grade
- Low idea density, but doesn't change the meaning/definition
- Active voice, not passive voice

Plain Language

- Fifth to eighth grade

Icons/Picture



- Clean and clear layout
- Example
 - Wheelchair user



Created by Jonathan Li
from Noun Project

Accessible Document



Summary statement:

This resource is about models of disability and how they influence home- and community-based services (HCBS) and supports that people get.

Accessible Document Sections



- How disability is defined
- How disability definitions affect policies and laws
- What person-centered supports are
- How definitions of disability affect person-centered supports
- How to improve person-centered supports

Some Components of Our Accessible Document



- Definitions

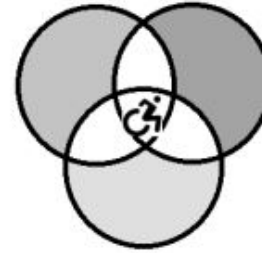
Words to Know

Term	Definition
Home and community-based services (HCBS)	These services allow people with disabilities and older adults to live in their own homes or in a community setting, instead of an institution. Services refer to the paid supports that people use.
HCBS Providers	People who have a job to deliver services to people with disabilities.
Institutions	Institutions are places where people with disabilities live apart from their families and communities.
Medicaid	Medicaid is a public health insurance program. Our taxes pay for it.
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)	The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services makes the rules and provides money for the Medicaid program.
HCBS Final Settings Rule	This rule says that people with disabilities have the right to live in the community that they want. The rule also says services should help people do that.
Person-centered planning	Person-centered planning involves the person with a disability: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sharing information about the things they like• Describing the things they want to do, or their goals• Identifying what help or support they need to reach their goals
Medical model of disability	The medical model defines disability as something that is wrong with someone. Disability is a medical condition to be fixed.
Social model of disability	The social model defines disability as coming from a lack of accommodations. Without accommodations, people may not be able to participate in their communities the way they want.
Accommodations	Accommodations help make places more accessible for everyone.

Some Components of Our Accessible Document



- Text and icons



Models of disability

This section focuses on various models of disability.

You will learn about the:

- Medical model of disability
- Social model of disability
- Biopsychosocial model of disability

You will also learn about the pros and cons of each model

For many years, people used the **medical model of disability**. In this model, disability is defined as something that is wrong with someone. In this model, people think of disability as a medical condition to be fixed.

More recently, people have started to think about disability in other ways. One of these ways is called the **social model of disability**. In this model, disability comes from a lack of accommodations. **Accommodations** are tools used to make something more accessible for everyone. As a result of accommodations, changes can be made to:

- a job
- the work environment
- the physical environment
- other settings

Without accommodations, people with disabilities are not always able to participate in their communities the way they want. For example, a wheelchair user may not be able to get around their community if there are no ramps. In the social model of disability, the wheelchair user is disabled because their environment is not accessible.

Reception and Response



- Received informal positive feedback.
- Downloaded 65 times.
- Facebook posts got more than 600 impressions.
- Twitter posts got more than 400 impressions.

Reception and Response (cont'd)



- Sent to more than 1,000 subscribers of our quarterly HCBS Quality Matters newsletter.
- That email had close to a 40% open rate and a 22% click rate. (Most content has a 28% open rate and a 2%–3% click rate.)

Challenges and Take-Aways



- Reading Level
 - Our reading level was at plain language level.
 - Learning and improving for next time!
- Easy Read
 - Focus on getting one idea per sentence.
 - Appears “easy” by name, but it is not. Be patient!

Resources



- Hemingway app
- Noun Project
- Self Advocacy Resource & Technical Assistance Center (SARTAC)
 - <https://www.selfadvocacyinfo.org/>
- Autistic Self Advocacy Network (ASAN)
- UP-GOER FIVE
 - <https://splasho.com/upgoer5/phpspellcheck/dictionaries/1000.dicin>

Resources



- Find the policy brief and accessible document here:
<https://www.sralab.org/research/labs/cror/projects/influence-disability-models-person-centeredness-home-and-community-based-services>
- Visit CROR's RRTC on HCBS:
<https://www.sralab.org/research/labs/rrtc-home-and-community-based-services>

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Thank you!

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