

AUGUST 12, 2014

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Transition Points - Building a Life Without Limits

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## Disability Update

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### Cognitive deficits in children linked to behavioral problems

Children diagnosed with cognitive delay between 9 months and 2 years were more prone than typically developing peers to have behavioral issues at 24 months, particularly those with persistent deficits, according to a study in the journal [Pediatrics](#). Behavioral problems increased over time among children with greater delays and more so in children whose condition did not improve. [DailyRx.com](#) (8/10)

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### Minn. order mandates hiring more state workers with disabilities

Minnesota Gov. Mark Dayton has signed an executive order mandating all state agencies to increase the hiring of individuals with disabilities from 3.2% in 2013 to 7% by 2018. The move follows criticism from some advocates about the slow pace of disability reforms. [Star Tribune \(Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn.\)](#) (8/7)

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## Other News

#### ■ President signs reauthorization of autism bill

Disability Scoop (8/11)

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#### ■ Parents and children learn together through autism behavioral therapy

The New York Times (tiered subscription model) (7/31)

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## Assistive Technology

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### "Bionic Man" sees change in public perception of people with disabilities

Advanced prosthetic devices like the i-limb are changing how the public perceives people with disabilities, says Bertolt Meyer, who served as the model for the Smithsonian Channel's documentary "The Incredible Bionic Man." "I think these devices have the potential to change commonly held stereotypes towards people with a disability," Meyer said in a recent interview. "Technology -- high-tech and bionics -- inherently evokes a feeling of competence. And what you get when you blend a person with a piece of high-tech is something that stereotypically is very competent." [Business Insider](#) (8/6)

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## Adaptive rowing brings water sports to people with disabilities

Para-rower KateLynne Steinke, who will compete in the 2014 Para-Rowing World Championships, uses a boat that has been adapted to include straps for secure seating and pontoons to help keep it upright. The Miami Beach Rowing Club offers an adaptive rowing program for people with disabilities, and Juan Carlos Gil, who has cerebral palsy and is visually impaired, said the water gives him an exhilarating feeling of freedom. [Cape Cod Times \(Mass.\) \(tiered subscription model\)](#) (8/11), [The Tribune \(San Luis Obispo, Calif.\)/The Associated Press](#) (8/11)

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## Transitions

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### Spotlight: Benefits, challenges of inclusion efforts in NYC

Data show fewer students in New York City are enrolled in full-time classes for students with disabilities since the city adopted special-education policy changes requiring most students with disabilities to be educated in their home school. This article offers a look at some of the benefits and challenges of implementing the policy. [Chalkbeat/New York](#) (8/11)

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### Animated program seeks to teach social skills

More than 100 school districts -- including two in California highlighted in this article -- have piloted an animated video game called "Social Express" to help teach social skills to students with disabilities. School officials say the program helps support the teaching of basic social skills. [San Diego Union-Tribune](#) (8/7)

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## Other News

### ■ Student with cerebral palsy blogs about college life

USA Today (8/5)

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### ■ Ill. district expands internship program for students with disabilities

The Journal & Topics newspapers (Chicago area) (8/6)

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## UCP News

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### Are you ready to step up?

Registration for this year's Steptember challenge is well underway at [www.steptember.us](http://www.steptember.us). You have a few more weeks left to get your team together and register online to begin your journey to taking 10,000 steps a day, every day, this September. When you register, we'll provide a complete event kit to help you track your steps. You can even roll your way to success! Friends, family members and co-workers can cheer you on by making an online donation to your team and help people with disabilities and their families by supporting the work of United Cerebral Palsy. Get started today at [www.steptember.us](http://www.steptember.us).

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### Summer camp brings a SMILE

The summer camp experience is about much more than horseback riding, kayaking and swimming. For young people across America, summer camp is a stepping stone on the road toward independence. Nowhere is this more true than at Camp SMILE. Hosted by UCP of Mobile, Ala., [Camp SMILE](#) is a residential summer camp for individuals with disabilities and their siblings. Here, campers not only have the chance to participate in physical activities, they also meet others whose abilities and life experiences are similar to their own. [Read more here.](#)

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## SmartQuote

“Curiosity will conquer fear even more than bravery will.”

-- James Stephens,  
Irish writer

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## About UCP

United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) educates, advocates and provides support services to ensure a life without limits for people with a spectrum of disabilities. Together with nearly 100 affiliates, UCP has a mission to advance the independence, productivity and full citizenship of people disabilities by supporting more than 176,000 children and adults every day—one person at a time, one family at a time. UCP works to enact real change—to revolutionize care, raise standards of living and create opportunities—impacting the lives of millions living with disabilities. For more than 60 years, UCP has worked to ensure the inclusion of individuals with disabilities in every facet of society. Together, with parents and caregivers, UCP will continue to push for the social, legal and technological changes that increase accessibility and independence, allowing people with disabilities to dream their own dreams, for the next 60 years, and beyond. For more information, please visit [www.ucp.org](http://www.ucp.org).

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