Breaking Down Barriers in Healthcare for People with Disabilities

Good health is something everyone should have an opportunity to obtain. Unfortunately, that's not the reality for many people with intellectual, developmental disabilities, and functional limitations. Too often, they run into unnecessary obstacles such as doctors who don't fully understand their needs, clinics that aren't set up to accommodate them, and health programs that leave them out. These gaps don't just make things inconvenient—they lead to worse health outcomes and higher risks for preventable diseases.

There are ways to provide these individuals with the same opportunities. By ensuring healthcare spaces are truly accessible, providers are properly trained, and health initiatives are built with inclusivity in mind, public health agencies and communities have the ability to make real changes. When we make healthcare work for everyone, we create stronger, healthier communities where people with disabilities have the same opportunities as everyone else.

For more information and resources, visit:

- The Arc: <u>https://thearc.org</u>
- DAWN Center for Independent Living: https://dawncil.org
- Easterseals: <u>https://www.easterseals.com</u>

