

People with Disabilities in Montana face unique challenges that affect their well being.



- **Healthcare Access and Quality:** Geographic isolation and limited healthcare facilities, especially in rural areas, can make accessing quality healthcare challenging.
- **Neighborhood and Built Environment:** Inadequate housing conditions and a lack of accessible housing options can negatively impact physical and mental health.
- Social and Community Context: Social isolation and stigma associated with disabilities can affect mental and emotional well-being.
- **Economic Stability:** Many individuals with disabilities experience higher rates of poverty and unemployment, which can limit their access to necessary resources.
- Education Access and Quality: Educational disparities, including lower graduation rates and limited access to specialized education services, affect long-term health outcomes.

Helpful Resources

- **Disability Rights Montana:** Provides advocacy and legal assistance to protect the rights of individuals with disabilities, including access to education, healthcare, and employment.
- Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS): Offers various programs and services, including the Montana ABLE program, developmental disabilities resources, and respite care.
- **Montana Empowerment Center:** Supports individuals with disabilities and their families through education, advocacy, and resources.
- **Montana Council on Developmental Disabilities:** Focuses on promoting independence, productivity, and integration of people with developmental disabilities.
- Montana Independent Living Project (MILP): Provides services to help individuals with disabilities live independently, including housing assistance, transportation, and peer support.