The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights is part of the United Nations. They make sure that everyone in the world is treated fairly and has their rights respected.

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights asked an independent person to write this report.

This report is about what happened to people with disabilities in Argentina during COVID-19 up until February 2021.

Life is already hard for many people with disabilities in the world.
In Argentina:

- many people with disabilities do not have enough money to buy the things they need

- the rights of people with disabilities are not respected, and women and girls with disabilities are not safe from abuse

- COVID-19 has made this much worse.
How many people with disabilities had COVID-19?

Argentina is not sure how many people with disabilities:

- got sick from COVID-19
- died from COVID-19.
What helped people with disabilities during the COVID-19 emergency?

The Government said people with disabilities:

- could work from home
- people with disabilities could keep using their old disability cards (CUDs) to keep getting support and services.

The Government gave some people with disabilities extra money.

The Government gave help to buy food with Alimentar Cards to:

- families with children with disabilities
- families where people with disabilities had children.
Deaf people could get accessible information about the COVID-19 emergency.
What happened during the COVID-19 emergency?

People with disabilities who live in institutions

Lots of people with disabilities who live in institutions got sick from COVID-19.

During the COVID-19 emergency people with disabilities in institutions:

- were worried
- were lonely
- had to follow rules about not going out for longer
- did not have a good way of talking to their families and people in the community
- did not have people coming to check if they were safe from abuse.
In some institutions people with disabilities:

- might have been given medication to make them sleepy
- might have been told to stay in a room on their own for a long time.

There is not enough State help for people with disabilities to:

- move out of institutions
- live independently in the community.

**Jobs**

Argentina is not sure how many people with disabilities:

- have jobs
- lost jobs during the COVID-19 emergency.
People with disabilities who have jobs in disability workshops might not have got paid during the COVID-19 emergency.

Money and support
People with disabilities could not get:

- disability cards (CUDs)
- extra money if they could not work
- medicine they needed
- other help they need.

Education
There are problems in Argentina for students with disabilities. COVID-19 made this worse.
During COVID-19 many students with disabilities missed out on learning:

- they did not have the internet
- materials were not accessible
- they didn’t have the extra support they needed.
What we think should happen in Argentina

The Government should:

Collect, keep and share information about how many people with disabilities:

- live in Argentina
- are women and girls
- get COVID-19
- die from COVID-19.

Use the information to make laws and plans that are fair for people with disabilities.
Make it a rule that people with disabilities get the COVID-19 vaccination quickly. Help people with disabilities access the vaccination.

Make plans to help people with disability:

- learn at school
- learn skills for jobs
- get jobs
- make sure the plans are fair for women and girls with disabilities.

Make getting a disability card (CUD) easier.
Make sure people with disabilities have:

- food
- medicine
- other important things they need.

Make sure women and girls:

- are safe from violence
- have ways to report violence that are accessible
- can get an education.

Make sure institutions collect and keep information about how many people with disabilities:

- get sick from COVID-19
- die from COVID-19.
Make sure institutions:

- have gloves and masks to keep everyone safe
- have free COVID-19 testing for residents and staff.

Make sure people with disabilities living in institutions:

- can talk to family and friends
- have their rights protected
- have a way to tell someone they trust about abuse.

Help people with disabilities:

- move out of institutions
- live in the community.
Credits

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