



January 2021 Edition

I am so happy to see the year “2021” for this January newsletter. Here’s to a better, safer year! In this newsletter, I highlight Birth Defect Awareness Month. I was born with a birth defect – I had two clubfeet. I spent my first years in casts, braces, and special orthotic shoes. Amazingly, no one who knows me now would ever guess that I had such major issues with my feet. I played sports, danced, and exercised throughout my life. I was very lucky that my parents had access to modern treatments.

Let me know who or what inspires you! Drop me a line at jenni@jennibasch.com. If you aren’t already receiving this newsletter in your email, please join my list at jennibasch.com.

Have you heard of Aunt Hattie’s Place?



Aunt Hattie’s Place is a nonprofit started by Dr. Hattie N. Washington in 1977. Their mission is to provide long-term community-based residential housing with a family-like environment for boys, 13-22 years old, who are wards of the foster care system while they are in their youth. I feature Dr. Washington’s memoir in the Book of the Month section of this newsletter which discussed the origins of Aunt Hattie’s Place.

Some of **Aunt Hattie’s Place**’s initiatives:

- Helping return children to their biological homes when appropriate
- Leadership Development Programs
- Wraparound and support services

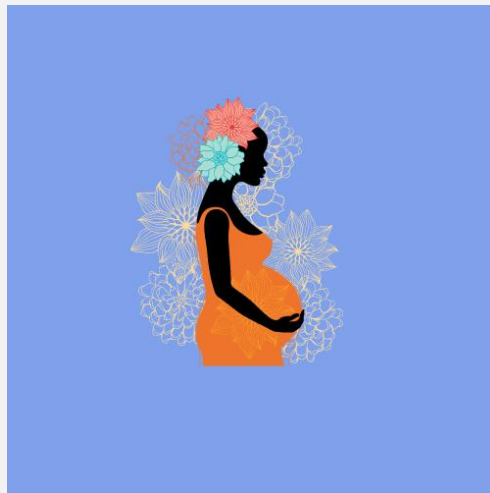
Click [here](#) for more information.

January is Birth Defect Awareness Month!



Did You Know?

- According to the CDC, 1 out of every 33 babies born in the United States has a birth defect.
- The most common structural birth defects are cleft palate, heart defects, spina bifida, and clubfoot.
- The most common functional or developmental birth defects are Down Syndrome, sickle cell disease, and cystic fibrosis.
- Birth defects are treated with medication, surgeries, home care and sometimes physical or occupational therapy.



For more information about Birth Defects, check out this website for resources and useful information:

<https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/birthdefects/facts.html>

Awesome Product Alert!

So here's a great safety product for anyone with medical, cognitive, and/or physical needs. This seatbelt cover can be personalized to help medical personnel properly respond in an emergency. Brightly colored and inexpensive, these seatbelt covers can provide peace of mind. I have one of these in my car to let medical personnel know that my daughter won't recognize danger and might resist help. Let me know if you try it!

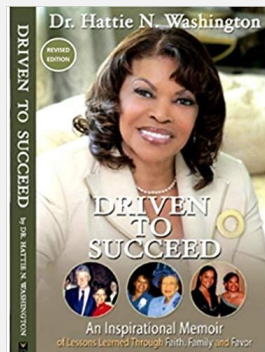
You can find it [here](#)



Book of the Month

Driven To Succeed: An Inspirational Memoir of Lessons Learned Through Faith, Family and Favor by Dr. Hattie N. Washington is truly inspirational. Dr. Washington provides her amazing life story from her childhood in Virginia to her opening up foster homes for abused youth. She has cared for others throughout her lifetime and has met an incredible amount of political and religious leaders. This is a great life story!

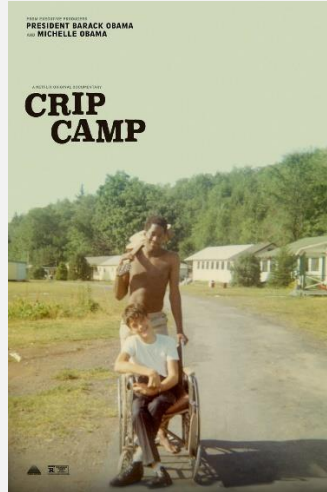
Dr. Washington's Book:



Get it [here](#)

Inspiring Stuff!

Crip Camp, a documentary, tells the story of a summer camp for teenagers with physical and mental disabilities paved the way for a civil rights victory. The documentary tells the story of how some of the campers realized they could fight for equal opportunity, accessibility, and recognition in the world at large. Their amazing journey and actions helped lay the groundwork for the American with Disabilities Act in 1990. Watch the documentary on Netflix.



Check out an article written by Sara Luterman highlighting the film's impact on her:

<https://www.nbcnews.com/think/opinion/netflix-s-crip-camp-one-most-important-films-about-disability-ncna1176456>

I hope this newsletter provided useful and inspiring information. Keep healthy and drop me a line if you have questions or comments.

Until next time,
Jenni Basch