

Disability Resources



**PRESBYTERIANS FOR
DISABILITY CONCERNS**

*A Network of (PHEWA) The
Presbyterian Health, Education
and Welfare Association*
100 Witherspoon Street
Louisville, KY 40202-1396
1-888-728-7228, ext. 5800
502-569-5800

Children's Literature:

Elmer

David McKee, New York: Lothrop, Lee & Shepherd Books, 1968. A comical fable about the multi-colored elephant Elmer who wishes he was like all the other elephants. Celebrates individuality and diversity. Reading level: 4-8.

The Missing Piece

Shel Silverstein, New York: Harper Collins Children's Books, 1976. The piece was not happy because it was missing a piece. Hear the "searching for the missing piece" adventures and new wisdom gained from this quest. Age range: 7

Kyle Can, Can You?

Michi Fujimoto, New York, NY: Price Stern Sloan, Inc., 1994. The "Puzzle Place" gang meets Skye's best friend, Kyle. Skye boasts about how Kyle loves to dance and play sports, so the kids are a little surprised to find that Kyle uses a wheelchair. The kids soon see that there are many different ways in which people live and that all should be appreciated.

What It's Like To Be Me

Helen Exley, editor. New York, NY: Friendship Press, 1984. In drawings and words, children with disabilities from all over the world describe how they feel about having a disability.

Families:

Bless My Special Child

Carolyn Lynch Quinonez, Liguori Publications, 2000. Prayers and insights for parents, as well as a section on "How a Church Community Can Help Families with Special Needs Children."

Disability is Natural: Revolutionary Common Sense for Raising Successful Children with Disabilities

Kathie Snow, BraveHeart Press: Woodland Park, CO, 2001. Children with disabilities, under the loving guidance of their parents – the true experts – can lead successful, natural lives at home, in school, and in their communities. The first step to ensure children lead successful, natural lives requires us to recognize that disability is not the "problem." The problem is, and always has been, society's attitude toward, and social policies for, children and adults with disabilities.

1-866-948-2222 (toll-free)

Exceptional Parent

A periodical that provides information and helpful resources on disability issues. P.O. Box 3000, Dept. EP, Denville, NJ 07834 or call 1-800-562-1973. Also see www.eparent.com for additional resources.

Extraordinary Kids: Nurturing and Championing Your Child with Special Needs

Cheri Fuller and Louise Tucker Jones, Focus on the Family Publishing, 1997, Colorado Springs, CO 90995. This book, written by an educator and a mother of a child with a disability, provides hope, inspiration, and insights a parent needs to capture the unique joy of parenting their child with a disability and help them reach their full potential.

Hope for Families: New Directions for Parents of Persons with Mental Retardation & Other Disabilities

Robert Perske, Martha Perske (Illustrator), Nashville, TN: Abington Press, 1981. A book to help parents cope with the unique problems they are confronted with when raising a child with mental retardation or other disabilities.

Lessons from Emily

Peter & Mary Graber, Mennonite Mutual Aid, 1993. The Grabers chronicle their journey as the parents of Emily, a child born with microcephaly – an underdeveloped brain. They conclude, “It is a journey of love with God.” They share their feelings from when they first learned of Emily’s challenges to their ongoing daily journey with her. They share their disappointments and questions, as well as their joys, acceptance and love. To order call MMA Educational Resources at 1-800-348-7468.

Reflections from a Different Journey: What Adults with Disabilities Wish All Parents Knew

Edited by Stanley Klein, Ph.D. and John D. Kemp, 2004. A series of essays written by adults sharing their experiences of growing up with a disability. They write in response to what they wished their parents had read or been told while they were growing up. The editors are a clinical psychologist who worked for 50 years with children with disabilities and an attorney and advocate who was born without arms and legs.

The Power of the Powerless: A Brother’s Legacy of Love

Christopher de Vinck, Doubleday, NY, 1988, ISBN#0310486912. Oliver de Vinck was born with multiple disabilities. Despite a bleak prognosis, Oliver lived for 33 years being cared for by his family.

Helping Kids Include Kids with Disabilities

Barbara J. Newman. CRC Publications, 2001. A resource to help children and their parents include a peer with a disability. Newman addresses five specific impairments: autistic spectrum disorders, emotional impairments, hearing impairments, mental impairments and visual impairments. Also included are short sections on ADD, speech and language disorders, physical impairment and learning disabilities. For each impairment, Newman includes a fact sheet for the educator and a lesson for preschool through 6th grade. Order: 800-333-8300 or through the Friendship Ministries website at www.friendship.org.

His Name is Joel; Searching for God in a Son’s Disability

Kathleen Deyer Bolduc. Louisville, KY: Bridge Resources, 1999. In *His Name Is Joel*, Kathleen Deyer Bolduc welcomes the reader into the world inhabited by a parent of a child with a disability to experience with her the moments of despair, the joy of resplendent victories, and the redemptive presence of God in the midst of deep personal questioning. *His Name Is Joel* is at once affirming and

dares to speak the truth: When disability strikes, parents and families grieve. Her account affirms that God is loving and provides us with the strength to face the darkest hours, bringing us to a place of greater compassion, love, and joy. Available through the Presbyterian Distribution Service (PDS): 1-800-524-2612. www.pcusa.org/marketplace/index.jsp #095643

General Disability Resources:

Access Sunday Worship Celebration Packet

This annual packet provides worship aids to help plan a special Sunday in the life of the congregation around disabilities awareness. Other resources are included to assist in the congregation's journey toward full inclusion and hospitality. Available on the website at www.pcusa.org/phewa/pdc or from PHEWA, 100 Witherspoon Street, Room 4617, Louisville KY 40202-1396. Call, toll-free: 1-888-728-7228 Ext. 8100 Free

A Drama of Love: A Christian Educator's Guide to Creating Classes Where Everyone Belongs

Judith Mullet and Paula Snyder. Available on the website at www.adnetonline.org/Resources/Online or to go directly to the PDF file: <http://tinyurl.com/5jxgt> AdNet: 1-877-214-9838, 574-535-7053

A Healing Homiletic: Preaching and Disability

Kathy Black. 1996, 144 pages, ISBN #0687002915. (from the publisher) Offers a unique and effective approach for preaching about disabilities. By going to the heart of the gospel and drawing on the healing narratives or miracle stories, Black shows how preaching affects the inclusion or exclusion of forty-three million persons with disabilities from our faith communities. Provides a new method of preaching about healing, based on Scripture, for understanding the needs of the disability community. "This book is a must read for everyone who preaches and teaches in the church. It demonstrates ways to transcend the hurtful biblical passages that reinforce attitudinal barriers and cause pain to persons with disabilities." Available through Abingdon Press, Nashville, TN. Phone: 1-800-251-3320

A Place Called Acceptance: Ministry with Families of Children with Disabilities

By Kathleen Deyer Bolduc. Louisville, KY: Bridge Resources, 2001. In Bolduc's new book, she challenges congregations to reach out to families of children living with physical, mental, or behavioral disabilities. This is a handbook for caring congregations looking for ways to welcome all of God's children into the full life of the church. Available through the PDS. 1-800-524-2612; www.pcusa.org/marketplace/index.jsp #095652

A Ramp is Not Enough

This promotional brochure describes the work of NOD and their three excellent guides listed below, with ordering information. Available from the National Organization on Disability (NOD), 910 Sixteenth Street NW #600, Washington DC 20006. Call 202-293-5960, (TDD) 202-293-5968; web site: www.nod.org Free.

Access Ability: A Manual for Churches, 1997

A complete and valuable 78 pg. manual designed to provide basic information about disabilities and how to make your congregation more accessible. Addresses architectural issues, attitudes, stereotypes and fears; models of successes and failures in beginning accessibility projects. Available from the Episcopal Office on Disability Concerns, Attn: Barbara Ramnaraine, Saint James on the Parkway, 3225 E. Minnehaha Pkwy., Minneapolis, MN 55417; phone: 612-721-1103. \$10 (checks payable to Office on Disability Concerns, cannot ship to PO boxes).

Accessible Faith: A Technical Guide for Accessibility in Houses of Worship

By Elizabeth A. Patterson and Neal A. Vogel, published by the Retirement Research Foundation, 2003. The core of this 52-page guide deals with practical solutions to eliminating physical, auditory, and visual barriers, and to improving signage, in older houses of worship. The authors use a variety of case examples and support the text with many photographs, drawings, charts, and diagrams and also include information on who is affected by a “disability”, as well as the basics of accessibility laws as they pertain to houses of worship. They conclude the guide with sections covering the design, funding, and construction processes. Partners for Sacred Places, 1700 Sansom Street, 10th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19103; 215-567-3234; www.sacredplaces.org

Adam: God’s Beloved — Henri J.M. Nouwen, Orbis Books, Maryknoll, 1997.

Henri Nouwen writes of his experiences as a friend and caregiver to Adam, a young man with severe disabilities. In this moving, highly readable book, Nouwen describes the ministry and education that Adam provided to him. Order from your favorite local or online bookstore.

And Show Steadfast Love: A Theological Look at Grace, Hospitality, Disabilities, and the Church

Lewis H. Merrick, 1993. Developed by Christian Education staff in the PC (USA) Congregational Ministries Division to address attitudinal barriers. Available through the Presbyterian Distribution Service (PDS). 1-800-524-2612. www.pcusa.org/marketplace/index.jsp #941083

Circles of Friends: People with Disabilities and Their Friends Enrich the Lives of One Another

Robert Perske. Abington Press, 1989. An inspiring book with a collection of stories about friendships between persons with disabilities and able-bodied persons. Beautiful pencil illustrations by Martha Perske. This is an excellent resource for congregations seeking ways to be involved in meaningful ways with persons with disabilities. 1-800-251-3320

Dancing with Disabilities; Opening the Church to All God’s Children

Brett Webb-Mitchell. (Cleveland: United Church Press, 1996), 176 pages. ISBN 0-8298-1152-4. 800-537-3394 or on the web at: www.ucpress.com. From the publisher: Imagine what a church could be if those who are “disabled” and those who are “able bodied” were to understand themselves to be equal partners in the faith community. Writing personally and passionately on this compelling subject, Brett Webb-Mitchell relates the struggles and triumphs, frustrations and joys, of children and adults with disabilities whom he has met through his ministry. It is these persons who put a genuinely human face to “disabilities” - and whose presence challenges the church to welcome all God’s children to their rightful place in the Christian community.

Developmental Disabilities

George C. Anderson and the Briarwood Task Force for Handicapped Ministries. In this nondenominational lesson series for confirmation preparation, Dr. Anderson explains how to teach the basic tenets of the Christian faith in a clear, meaningful way. The lessons make use of a wide variety of hands-on activities for students to learn about God's love; Jesus' life, death, and resurrection; the Bible; Baptism; Communion; and Christian living. Edited by a task force made up of special education teachers and parents of children with disabilities, this curriculum is designed for use with students with varying levels of ability and may be adapted for one-on-one interaction. Available from Presbyterian Curriculum Services. Call: 1-800-524-261; www.pcusa.org/marketplace/index.jsp # 095602

Different Members, One Body: Welcoming the Diversity of Abilities in God's Family

Sharon Kutz-Mellem, editor. Louisville, KY: Witherspoon Press, 1998. Disability is a continuum on which we all reside—each of us is vulnerable either by circumstance, disease, accident, or age. *Different Members, One Body* is a practical, faith-inspired handbook written for churches that take seriously God's call in welcoming all members into the community of faith. This 92-page book offers a wealth of information and insight to churches committed to changing the perceptual, attitudinal, and physical barriers that often keep people with disabilities from fully participating in our churches. Published by Witherspoon Press, in partnership with the Commission on Enabling Ministry Services, a ministry of the General Assembly and the General Assembly Council, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Available through the Presbyterian Distribution Service (PDS). 1-800-524-2612. www.pcusa.org/marketplace/index.jsp #097300

Item #097301 Audiotape version

Item #097302 Braille edition

The Disabled God: Toward a Liberatory Theology of Disability

Nancy L. Eiesland. 1994, 139 pages. #0687108012. From the publisher: The author, who is disabled, argues that the "hidden history" of non-conventional bodies living ordinary lives with grace and dignity, disgust and disillusion, can make both a theological and pastoral contribution. She affirms that bodies in trouble, that lumber and plod their way throughout life, are in full continuity with humans' ordinary lives, filled with blessings and curses. "A good mixture of historical background, story, and groundbreaking theological insights."

Each One Uniquely Gifted by God

A disability awareness curriculum created by Bethesda Lutheran Homes and Services, Inc. This guide helps children develop inclusive, accepting attitudes and explains God's call to show respect and hospitality to all God's children. Available from Bethesda's National Christian Resource Center by calling 1-800-369-4636, ext. 416; FAX your request to 920-262-6513 or e-mail ncrc@blhs.org. This and additional resources can be found also at www.blhs.org/resources/SpiritualResources/Catalog.

FDR's Splendid Deception

Hugh Gallagher, Vandamere Press, 1994. A moving story of FDR's and how his efforts to conceal his disability brought significant change to the disability community, the United States and the world. 1-800-551-7776

Faith Communities and Inclusion of People with Developmental Disabilities

Mair Hall and Philip Lambert, 1998. Includes resources and information on books, articles, newsletters, and organizations that work to include people with developmental disabilities in the mainstream of faith communities. Also included are selected reprints that give examples of this work. (77 pages). 1-800-894-0826; 315-443-4355 (tty); <http://thechp.syr.edu/>

FROM BARRIERS TO BRIDGES; A Community Action Guide for Congregations and People With Disabilities

The resource provides the guidance needed to hold a “That All May Worship” Conference and to promote other community-building activities. It fosters dialogue between people with disabilities, their family members, religious leaders and the larger community. Available from the National Organization on Disability (NOD), 910 Sixteenth Street NW #600, Washington DC 20006. 202-293-5960, (TDD) 202-293-5968; web site: www.nod.org \$10 plus shipping and handling, quantity discounts available.

God Plays Piano, Too: The Spiritual Lives of Disabled Children

Brett Webb-Mitchell. Crossroad Publishing Co., 1993. ISBN: 08245137. From the publisher: Joshua is a young boy with an extraordinary gift for playing the piano. He is also autistic. His story is one of many in this revelatory look at the spiritual lives of children with disabilities: those with mental retardation, autism, or behavior disorders. From these moving, spiritually based narratives, readers will learn a great deal about the immensely rich, often hidden abilities of these children. They will see a surprising depth of understanding in those considered limited in their comprehension of themselves, let alone of the world, church, and God. They will gain new insight into the relatively unknown and untapped power of the faith community in nurturing these children’s lives. Most of all, perhaps, they will become more aware of their own journey in Love.

The Gospel of Luke: An ASL Translation.

This is a set of five tapes of the Gospel of Luke signed in American Sign Language. It is not voiced. Available from Sign Media, Inc., 4020 Blackburn Lane, Burtonsville, MD 20866-1167. To order: 1-800-475-4756

Health as Liberation; Medicine, Theology, and the Quest for Justice

Alastair V. Campbell. Cleveland: Pilgrim Press, 1995. ISBN:0-8298-1022-6. “In this lucid and moving analysis of what constitutes a theologically grounded understanding of authentic health care, ethicist Alastair Campbell relates the cases of those not often heard, demonstrating convincingly why all of us—both inside and outside Washington—need to listen...This book has general application for pastoral ministry; it also includes one chapter directly relevant to disabilities.”

How to Be an Effective Advocate: Making Our Voices Heard.

Provides “how-to” techniques for Presbyterians who wish to successfully advocate public policy positions to elected officials. Available through the Presbyterian Distribution Service (PDS). 1-800-524-2612, www.pcusa.org/marketplace/index.jsp #72940-95-001 Free.

Human Disability and the Service of God: Reassessing Religious Practice

Nancy L. Eiesland & Don E. Saliers, editors. 1998, ISBN:00687273161. “A rich assortment of essays on worship, biblical texts, and practical theology. This book—which might serve as a text in

theological school-is a helpful, thoughtful resource for the church, as well.” Available through Abingdon Press, Nashville, TN.

Kiss of God; The Wisdom of a Silent Child

Stewart Marshall Ball. Health Communications Inc., 1999. ISBN: 1558747435. “The writings of a deeply spiritual child genius who is unable to walk, care for himself, or speak. Inspirational. Revealing of profound truths.” 1-800-441-5569

LOVING JUSTICE; The ADA and the Religious Community

Clarifies the relationship between the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), other relevant disability laws and the religious community. It describes both legal and moral mandates. Available from the National Organization on Disability (NOD), 910 Sixteenth Street NW #600, Washington DC 20006. 202-293-5960, (TDD) 202-293-5968; web site: www.nod.org \$10 plus shipping and handling, quantity discounts available.

Mill Neck

Resources for deaf ministry. They have a number of videos in American Sign Language: the Lord’s Prayer, the Apostles’ Creed, and the Twenty-Third Psalm; the following hymns: “O Holy Night,” “Jesus Christ is Risen Today,” and “Silent Night, Holy Night;” two video resources on deaf ministry: “Welcoming Deaf People into the Church,” and “Interpreters in the Church.” There are other resources. Ask for their Sign Language Resource catalog. The Mill Neck Foundation for Deaf Ministry; PO Box 100, Mill Neck, NY 11765 or call: 1-800-264-0662.

Money and Ideas: Creative Approaches to Congregational Access

National Organization on Disability (NOD) in collaboration with the Alban Institute, has published this 36-page booklet. It describes creative initiatives and fund raising strategies used by 50 congregations to become more accessible to people with all types of disabilities. These congregations, although limited in funds, serve as models of inclusion and hospitality. Available from the National Organization on Disability (NOD), 910 Sixteenth Street NW #600, Washington DC 20006. 202-293-5960, (TDD) 202-293-5968; web site: www.nod.org

No Pity: People with Disabilities Forging a New Civil Rights Movement

Joseph Shapiro, Random House, 1993. The disability-rights movement has thousands of heroes but, interestingly, no “hero.” Shapiro tells the story of how viewing disability as “illness” as changed to viewing disability as “culture.”

Perske: Pencil Portraits 1971-1990

Drawings by Martha Perske; introduction by Robert Perske. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1998. These illustrations in pencil from renowned artist Martha Perske present a rare, refreshing view of both a person’s disability and beauty.

For information and to order the following, call PDS: 800-524-2612

The Presbyterian Book of Confessions, Large Print Edition

The Presbyterian Book of Confessions, Braille Edition

The Presbyterian Book of Order, Large Print Edition

The Presbyterian Book of Order, Braille Edition

Presbyterian Camps and Conference Centers

Call 1-888-728-7228 extension 5464 for accessibility information.

The Presbyterian Hymnal

Braille Edition

18 Volumes. Order from The National Braille Association, Three Townline Circle, Rochester NY 14623-2513 or call 716-427-8260.

Presbyterian Women's Horizons Adult Bible Study Materials

Available through the Presbyterian Distribution Service (PDS) in various accessible formats: 1-800-524-2612. www.pcusa.org/marketplace/index.jsp. Descriptions of studies can be found at www.pcusa.org/pcusa/horizons/

The Rejected Body: Feminist Philosophical Reflections on Disability

Susan Wendell. New York: Routledge. 1996, ISBN#0415910471. Among the topics it addresses are who should be identified as disabled; whether disability is biomedical, social or both; what causes disability and could 'cure' it; and whether scientific efforts to eliminate disabling physical conditions are morally justified.

Religion and Disability; Perspectives in Scripture, Theology and Ethics

Marilyn E. Bishop, editor. Sheed & Ward, 1995. Three keynote addresses from the national symposium, "Ministry Perspectives on Disability."

Riding the Bus With My Sister

Rachel Simon, A Plume book (Penguin Group USA, Inc), New York, NY, 2003. An insightful and moving story focuses on the journey of two sisters – the older, a journalist, the younger, a person with "mild mental retardation." The older sister spends a year participating in the world of her younger sister, gaining insight, wisdom, and depth of perception by her revisiting memories, engaging in experiences, expressing a range of emotions, and reflecting on the gifts provided through her sister's life.

Sacramental Preparation – Eucharist – Individualizing Lesson Plans

Mary Pat Carter with Marilyn E. Bishop, Dayton, OH: Center for Ministry with People with Disabilities, University of Dayton, 1996. An overview of how children with disabilities can be included in regular classes – to learn about sacraments or for typical Christian Education classes. An extensive section on how to individualize lesson plans to meet the needs of a variety of children with disabilities. Note: This is a Catholic resource. Be alert to theological differences with Reformed Theology.

That All May Worship; An Interfaith Welcome To People With Disabilities

Assists congregations, denominational groups and seminaries in welcoming people with disabilities. This handbook is interfaith and concerns people with all types of disabling conditions. Available from the National Organization on Disability (NOD), 910 Sixteenth Street NW #600, Washington DC 20006. 202-293-5960, (TDD) 202-293-5968; web site: www.nod.org

Unexpected Guests at God's Banquet: Welcoming People with Disabilities Into the Church

Brett Webb-Mitchell. New York: Crossroad Publishing Co., 1994. ISBN #0824514408. From the publisher: Flowing from Jesus' parable of the banquet feast, this practical and challenging call to a

more inclusive church shows why people with disabilities...must be a part of congregational life, along with how, where, and what to do. Essential for parents, teachers, and those living with disabilities, themselves.

What Christians Believe: Confirmation Studies for Persons with Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities

George C. Anderson and the Briarwood Task Force for Handicapped Ministries. In this nondenominational lesson series for confirmation preparation, Dr. Anderson explains how to teach the basic tenets of the Christian faith in a clear, meaningful way. The lessons make use of a wide variety of hands-on activities.

God's love; Jesus' life, death, and resurrection; the Bible; Baptism; Communion; and Christian living

Edited by a task force made up of special education teachers and parents of children with disabilities, this curriculum is designed for use with students with varying levels of ability and may be adapted for one-on-one interaction. Available from Presbyterian Curriculum Services: 1-800-524-262; www.pcusa.org/marketplace/index.jsp#095602

Why, God?

Burton Cooper. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 1988. Examines the questions of why some people suffer and God's involvement in that suffering. Available through the Presbyterian Distribution Service (PDS): 1-800-524-2612. www.pcusa.org/marketplace/index.jsp#000731.

For a current selection of Braille and large print Bibles

Call Cokesbury at 1-800-672-1789.

Videos:

Believing, Belonging, Becoming – WCDD in Madison, WI.

This 12-minute video and accompanying booklet explores stories of inclusive faith experiences of persons with cognitive disabilities connecting with faith communities and building meaningful relationships in the congregation. Testimonials are given by persons with disabilities and by church members who form intentional relationships, called “worship circles of support” or “circles of friends” within the church community. It highlights the essential place that social relationships and spiritual growth plays in all of our lives, including that of persons with cognitive disabilities. The accompanying booklet is “Believing, Belonging, Becoming: Stories of Faith Inclusion” by Beth Sweden. Three handouts also accompany the video: A “Discussion Guide for ‘Believing, Belonging, Becoming,’” “Helpful Tips Toward Including Someone with a Disability” and “People First Language.” To order contact Wisconsin Council on Developmental Disabilities (WCDD) toll-free at 888-332-1677 or 608-266-7826. TTY/TDD 608/266-6660, Fax: 608/267-3906.

Bridges to Faith – Massachusetts Department of Mental Retardation in Greater New Bedford

Testimonials are given by pastors, church members and persons with disabilities who participate in a “faith companions” program in New Bedford, MA. Persons with cognitive disabilities who want to attend church are paired with church members who accompany the individual to worship/other church activities. Beautiful friendships are built, faith is nurtured and lives enriched through this intentional partnership. Contact the Massachusetts Department of Mental Retardation in Greater New Bedford, Massachusetts at 508-992-1848 ext. 300.

Mister Rogers' Neighborhood

This is a copy of episode #1478 featuring Mister Rogers' visit with Jeff Erlanger, a young man who uses a wheelchair. During that episode, the Rev. Fred Rogers sang, "It's You I Like." Family Communications, Inc. gave PDC permission to loan this segment out to congregations and to use the lyrics and music in their Access Sunday Packets. To borrow the video, call Terri Gilmore at 1-888-728-7228, extension 8100 or email her: tgilmore@ctr.pcusa.org.

Surprising Grace: People, Disabilities, Churches

Video. Media Services, Presbyterian Church (USA); produced and directed by William W. Gee, in cooperation with Presbyterians for Disability Concerns (PDC), 1998. This video in two versions (4 and 15 minute) shows persons with disabilities actively serving their churches. Includes interviews that explain why persons with disabilities feel welcomed by their churches and why "the more physically accessible a church can be, the more spiritually accessible it's going to be for everyone." Includes a study guide. Available through the Presbyterian Distribution Service (PDS): 1-800-524-2612. www.pcusa.org/marketplace/index.jsp #7265098001

The Ten Commandments of Communicating with People With Disabilities

This video has been called a training tool as it was designed for use by businesses to train employees and improve service to customers. However, it can be helpful to other groups in church, school or community to increase sensitivity to persons with disabilities. Do the words, "Ten Commandments," in the title sound heavy – not at all! It is very effective in its use of humor to deliver its message.

The video consists of ten vignettes depicting situations in which persons with limited mobility, vision, hearing or speech encounter situations where communication can be difficult unless the other person observes a few helpful tips. Viewing this video can change attitudes and avoid awkwardness. The points are made without preaching. Solid information is presented with clarity and in an entertaining, not condescending way. The people with disabilities are pictured as competent and affable and they gain respect from their colleagues. They also get amused at themselves occasionally. 26 minutes – Program Development Associates — www.disabilitytraining.com

Web sites and Organizations:

Family Communications, Inc.

This web site takes you to the many resources that continues the work of the Rev. Fred Rodgers (Mr. Rodgers' Neighborhood). Resources and information about training initiatives are available.

Family Communications, Inc.

4802 Fifth Avenue

Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Phone: 412-687-2990

Fax: 412-687-1226

www.fci.org

The National Information Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities (NICHY)

PO Box 1492

Washington, DC 20013-1492

1-800-695-0285 (Voice/TTY)

1-202-884-8200 (Voice/TTY)

E-mail: nichcy@aed.org

www.nichcy.org

NICHY is a national information and referral center that provides information on disabilities and disability-related issues for families, educators, and other professionals. Special focus is children and youth; birth to age 22. Through telephone and e-mail, NICHY information specialists offer personal responses to your specific questions and referrals to disability organizations, parent groups, and professional associations at the state and national level. Their publications include fact sheets on specific disabilities, state resource sheets, parent guides, bibliographies, and NICHY issue papers. NICHY is a project of the Academy for Educational Development, operated through a Cooperative Agreement with the Office of Special Education Programs, U.S. Department of Education.

Kids Health

www.Kidshealth.com - This site offers different portals for children, youth, and adults to learn about a variety of health issues. The language is age appropriate depending on which portal one enters. It is particularly good for learning about specific disabilities.

The National Organization on Disability (N.O.D.)

910 16th Street, N.W.

Washington, DC 20006

202-293-5960

(TDD) 202-293-5968

(FAX) 202-293-7999

e-mail religion@nod.org

www.nod.org.

N.O.D. promotes the full and equal participation and contribution of America's 54 million men, women and children with disabilities in all aspects of life. The N.O.D. Religion and Disability Program is an interfaith effort urging local congregations, national denominational groups and seminaries to remove the obstacles to worship that alienate people with disabilities.

****Take the Self-Assessment of your congregation's efforts to ensure the full participation of people with disabilities and older adults. Go to <http://nod.org/content.cfm?id=96>

Disability is Natural

BraveHeart Press

Toll-Free: 1-866-948-2222

Fax: 1-719-687-8114

P. O. Box 7245

Woodland Park, CO 80863

www.disabilityisnatural.com

The mission of **Disability is Natural** is to encourage new ways of thinking about disability and to help create a society in which all people are valued and included.

Center on Human Policy, Syracuse University

805 South Crouse Avenue

Syracuse, NY 13244-2280

800-894-0826

315-443-4355 (tty)

<http://thechp.syr.edu/>

The Center on Human Policy (CHP) is a Syracuse University based policy, research, and advocacy organization involved in the national movement to insure the rights of people with disabilities.

NCC Equal Access Guide for Meetings, Conferences, Large Assemblies and Worship —

A Resource from the National Council of Churches USA (NCC) Committee on Disabilities.

www.ncccusa.org/elmc/disabilitiesmanual.html (also within folder as 'equalaccessguideword')