

Differently-Abled: What is a Disability? (Diversity)

Purpose:

- To spread awareness, knowledge, and sensitivity of disabilities today

Learning Outcomes:

- Through a variety of different speakers and booths, the biggest outcome would just be the spreading of knowledge about the vast amount of the different types of disabilities
- Speakers who help students understand their roles in how to help make the world more accepting, patient, responsible, as well as accessible.
- Through the realization that everyone will be disabled at some point in their life, students will learn to better understand and empathize with disabled persons.

Materials:

- Set up Disability Booths around the area, where students can walk around and learn more (examples:)
 - Disability Pride booth: a booth set up displaying famous/influential people who have also had disabilities (FDR, Stephen Hawking, Ray Charles, etc.)
 - In My Shoes booth: set up a booth where students can use wheelchairs, read Braille, and experience in a very small sense what it's like being disabled
 - Accessibility booth: What does it mean? How our world is changing toward it? What can we do?
 - What is a Disability?: a booth set up illustrating many different types of disabilities, addressing the big question: What constitutes a "disability"?
- Speakers from on and off campus (either disabled or not), who are knowledgeable on the subject
- ADA approved reading materials present (laid out on a table/booth)

Directions:

1. Set up all booths (listed above), as well as stage and sound system for speakers to address audience
2. Train staff so that everyone working at the booths are knowledgeable or at least their aspect of the program
3. Have both times where students can listen to the speakers, as well as walk around and participate in the booth activities
4. Provide handouts (ADA materials) for students to take on their way out, to ensure students don't forget all they learned.