

Workshop #1: Accessibility and Inclusion for Patrons with Disabilities: The Basic



Handout #1

Definitions

Different Types of Disability:

1. Physical Disability - Affects a person's mobility.

Examples: cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, epilepsy, etc.

2. Sensory Disability - Affects a person's ability to sense the world around them.

Examples: low vision, blindness, deafness, and hard of hearing, etc.

3. Visual Disability - Affects a person's ability to see.

Examples: Cataracts, Color Blindness, Vision Loss, etc.

4. Hearing Disability - Affects a person's ability to hear.

Examples: Conductive hearing loss, Sensorineural Hearing Loss, Mixed Hearing Loss, and Auditory Neuropathy Spectrum Disorder

5. Olfactory and Gustatory Disability - Affects a person's ability to taste and smell.

Examples: Head injury, exposure to chemicals, radiation, cigarette smoking, vitamin and mineral deficiency, etc.

6. Somatosensory Impairment - Affects a person's physical sensations, such as touch.

Examples: Nerve injury, stroke, cerebral palsy, etc.

7. Intellectual Disability - Affects a person's ability to comprehend and process information.

Examples: Down syndrome, autism, brain injury, fetal alcohol syndrome, etc.

8. Mental Health and Emotional Disabilities - Common types are anxiety, mood, obsession, addiction, personality disorders, and PTSD.

Person-First and Disability-First Language:

Person-First: Language that puts the person first before their disability.

Disability-First: Language that puts the disability first.

Medical Model vs Social Model of Disability

The Medical Model: defines disability as a medical issue that there is something wrong with the individual, and they need to be cured. This model says that having a disability is negative and abnormal and that the person shouldn't be surprised when they are not accepted into "normal" society because of their disability. Attitudes and biases can also be a barrier for people with a disability.

The Social Model: states that disability is a status put onto people by an unaccommodating society. It looks to remove the barriers preventing people with disabilities from contributing to society. The model focuses on helping to change people's ingrained attitudes towards people with disabilities rather than socially excluding them.