

Disability Inclusion & Philanthropy: An introduction

Throughout the disability inclusion learning journey, it's vital to listen to the wisdom and insights of the disability community. This video offers a powerful introduction to disability inclusion from a diverse group of advocates who will challenge you to change the narrative by reflecting on and shifting the ways you think about disability.

Transcript begins.

[light piano music]

[A series of individuals sit for interviews in an industrial studio setting.]

KERI GRAY: I am a young-adult black woman, sitting in a chair. On my right leg is a prosthetic limb, and I am wearing a red romper with a black head wrap.

My name is Keri Gray. Keri Gray is a black, disabled woman, and there's power behind that. Disability, to me, is about a connection to a community and a culture.

REBECCA COKLEY: My name is Rebecca Cokley. I am wearing a Prince-purple dress because I'm a huge Prince fan. I am a second-generation little person.

Roughly one in five people in this country are a person with a disability or a person who will experience disability at some point in their life. There's not a community, there's not a demographic that is not touched by disability.

SARA MINKARA: My name is Sara Minkara. I am blind, I'm a Muslim, and I'm a woman.

There's one billion individuals in this world with disabilities. The majority of persons with disabilities are marginalized, from the education sector, employment, health sector.

JANE AKINYI: My name is Jane Akinyi. I am a self-advocate from Kenya. I was born with this intellectual disability.

We have equal rights like you. We have rights to marriage, to have inclusive work.

RYAN EASTERLY: My name is Ryan Easterly. I am a black man with a teal-and-white striped shirt, wearing glasses.

I identify, personally, as a black, gay person with disability who's a former foster kid. I consider disability one of the characteristics about myself, but it's not my entire identity. I am multifaceted, as we all are.

ALICE WONG: My name is Alice Wong. I'm an Asian American woman in a wheelchair, wearing bright-red lipstick. And I'm wearing a mask attached to a tube that's used to help me breathe.

A lot of people don't associate disability with diversity. Yet they absolutely should. I really think of disability as part of the wonderful variation in our cultures, in our society.

RABIA BELT: My name is Rabia Belt. I'm a black woman with short curly hair, wearing a green shirt.

We see disability all over the place, but often in ways that are somewhat negative. We don't often see people with disabilities speaking for themselves, so we don't really know the history of disability in this country. What I would like to see is different types of representation across race, gender, and class, so that you see the full panoply of people with disabilities.

MADDY RUVOLO: My name is Maddy Ruvolo. I am a young white woman with brown curly hair, wearing a bright-green shirt. I am a disabled woman. I have a chronic illness called POTS.

Full access—that's the dream, right, that everybody can move through the world and not face barriers. Full accessibility means talking to people, designing processes and programs in a way that people are included from the start. Understanding that the legal requirements are just a minimum.

DESSA COSMA: My name is Dessa Cosma. I am a white, disabled woman. I'm a little person who often uses a wheelchair.

Everything that's wrong with our society was a set of choices, and the beautiful thing about that is that we can make different choices. So, there's this huge opportunity to rebuild our world in a way that actually works for people, and not just a few people.

MINKARA: Everyone needs to be involved in changing the narrative. People with disabilities are people with potential, people that can contribute, people that bring value.

WONG: It's part of a larger conversation that all of us as a society has about who we are, where we're going, who we want to be in our movement toward, ultimately, social justice.

VOICE-OVER: Where are you in your Journey to Inclusion? For more information, go to DisabilityPhilanthropy.org, and promote using the hashtag DisabilityInclusion. Brought to you by the Presidents' Council on Disability Inclusion in Philanthropy.

CREDITS

Director and Producer

Jessica Reynolds

Director of Photography

Peter Hutchens

Frazer Bradshaw

Field Producer

Keith Wilson

Assistant Camera

Keith Wilson
Aaron Chandler

Sound Recordist

Aaron Chandler
Kevin Crawford
Seth Peterson

Production Assistant

Shrien Alshabasy

Editor

Rob Halstead

Title Design

Rob Halstead

Color Correction

Henninger Media Services

Re-recording Mixer

Nicholas Montgomery

Music

De Wolfe Music

Voice-Over Artist

Rob Halstead

Accessibility Editor

Naomi Wax

SPECIAL THANKS

Detroit Disability Power
Rooted in Rights
Dogpatch Films
Kelsey Baker
Judith Heumann
Kadi Hughes
Noorain Khan
Claire Kinnen
Eryn Loeb
Nicole Okai

Naomi Ortiz
Paul Silva
Catherine Hyde Townsend
Nina Whitley
Gitta Zomorodi

End of transcript.