Championing Disability Rights in 2020

This year marks a significant milestone for disability advocates and organizations working to advance the goals of the ADA: equal opportunity, economic power, independent living and full participation for all. However, there is still work to be done:

1 in 5 Americans has a disability, but the community continues to be widely underrepresented in most facets of society.

Workforce participation for people with disabilities was 19.3% in 2019, compared to 66.3% for those without disabilities.*

The COVID-19 pandemic exposed enormous gaps in the U.S. healthcare system, entrenched bias against people with disabilities.


Sparking a Paradigm Shift: The Next 30 Years of Change

Communities must move boldly into the next 30 years of the disability rights movement with a focus on:

Identity: Celebrating disability and empowering people with disabilities to lead and advocate for their diverse needs.

Community integration: Advocating for the right for people with disabilities to live in their homes and communities by providing accessible and equitable transportation and housing.

Healthcare: Strengthening infrastructure in the wake of COVID-19 to ensure people with disabilities have control over their healthcare decisions and equal access to quality, affordable and comprehensive care — especially disabled people of color.

Employment: Eliminating systemic, discriminatory practices that create barriers to community integration, economic opportunity, and self-empowerment.

Political participation: Removing obstructions to political participation for people with disabilities.

Join the movement for a more equitable, inclusive America.

WHO: People with disabilities, disability advocates, government agencies, corporations, nonprofits and allies working toward a more inclusive America.

WHAT: A celebration of disability identity and milestone in the fight for equal opportunity, economic power, independent living and full participation in society.

WHEN: Now, to celebrate progress and usher in the next wave of change.

WHERE: In communities across the United States.

WHY: Because the need for cross-disability solidarity and allyship has never been more apparent, particularly amid a pandemic and rising calls for racial justice.

HOW: By ensuring that equal access to all civil rights is not a fight the disability community undertakes alone.