EVENTS FOR EVERY PERSON
How to make your event inclusive
Christine Pierce
Director of Community and Outreach
RISING ABOVE MINISTRIES

Family
Cookeville, TN
CONSIDER YOUR CROWD
Who is coming to your event?

Church Family:
What accommodations do you need to make for the families that you are serving?

Outreach/Community:
Consider accommodations for all ability levels.
BUDGET

How much does it cost to make needed accommodations?

Large Budget

Small Budget

No Budget
THINGS TO CONSIDER

SIGN-UPS

Pros: Better idea of how many and ability levels to plan for.
Cons: Not always accurate

LOCATION

Single level, Family restroom on-site, Back-up location

FAMILY EVENT VS. INDIVIDUAL EVENT

Will parents be staying with their child or will they be dropping them off? These questions will determine the number of volunteers you will need.
WHAT IF...
Things that might come up

...no special needs families show up?

...I don't have enough volunteers?

...our church is too small?

...my pastor is not on board?

...you have inclement weather?
What are you doing well?

How can you make it more inclusive?
# Current Events Your Church May Have

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Activities/Considerations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Easter Egg Hunt</td>
<td>- Baskets on hooks&lt;br&gt;- Chirping eggs&lt;br&gt;- Flat, smooth surfaces&lt;br&gt;- Sensory Activities&lt;br&gt;- Sibling Hunts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christmas Program</td>
<td>- Offer non-speaking roles&lt;br&gt;- Instruments vs. singing&lt;br&gt;- Alternate activities&lt;br&gt;- Other responsibilities off-stage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VBS</td>
<td>- Have peer buddies&lt;br&gt;- Sensory-friendly activities&lt;br&gt;- Diet-friendly snack options&lt;br&gt;- Self-contained classroom&lt;br&gt;- Visual Schedules</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church Picnic</td>
<td>- Sensory Activities&lt;br&gt;- Bounce Houses&lt;br&gt;- Diet-friendly foods&lt;br&gt;- Enclosed playground&lt;br&gt;- Consider mobility issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday School</td>
<td>- Have peer buddies&lt;br&gt;- Sensory-friendly activities&lt;br&gt;- Diet-friendly snack options&lt;br&gt;- Self-contained classroom&lt;br&gt;- Visual Schedules</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Groups</td>
<td>- Extra childcare&lt;br&gt;- Planned activities&lt;br&gt;- Enclosed space&lt;br&gt;- Childproof home, if possible&lt;br&gt;- Hosted at church</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Easter Egg Hunt
for all abilities
POSSIBLE NEW EVENTS

- DINNER & DANCE
  Family Event

- FALL FESTIVAL
  Family Event

- STORY HOUR
  Individual Event
DINNER & DANCE

KID-FRIENDLY MEAL
Consider your families when choosing your meal for the event.

RED-CARPET WALK
Anything that highlights the individual with special needs and makes them feel special is a win!

SENSORY-FRIENDLY ROOM
- Lights dimmed
- Music softer
- Sensory corner
Dance Floor Sensory Room

- People dancing in a large room.
- A boy standing at a table with toys.
- A child playing with a toy on the floor.
FALL FESTIVAL

RAMPS FOR HAYRIDE

PETTING ZOO

CRAFT AND GAMES
Story Hour

- Sensory box
- Hands on activities
- Overplan

- Interpreter if necessary
- Craft
- Music
- Games
DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS?

RISINGABOVEMINISTRIES.ORG
CONTACT US

WEB ADDRESS
risingaboveministries.org

PHONE
931.526.7473

EMAIL
cpierce@risingaboveministries.org

RISING ABOVE MINISTRIES