Growing the Disability Movement

OPPORTUNITIES IN LEADERSHIP NETWORKING
The Disability Movement

Churches reflecting diverse gifts and unique families helps to give the world a living picture of the coming Kingdom!
Networking Advantages

- Encouragement
- Learning
- Shared and tested ideas
- Answered questions
- Identification of best practices

- Collaboration
- Career opportunities
- Increased awareness
- Prayer for each other
- Making Christ known to all
An interdenominational leadership community helping people of all abilities encounter Christ and experience belonging in the church.

MINNESOTA DISABILITY MINISTRY CONNECTION

MNDMC.ORG

MDMC is an offering of Walk Right In Ministries, a 501(c)3 non-profit charity.
HISTORY: Evolution of MDMC

JAF Communication
Date and Time
Frequency
Agenda
Community Table
Lending Library
Online Discussion Group
REFINING: A Clear Goal

“Support group” for DM leaders that strengthens the Church for people of all abilities.

Strengthening the Church with people of all abilities.

Helping people of all abilities encounter Christ and experience belonging in the church.
Our Essentials

- Coffee and water
- Devotions
- Prayer
- Announcements
- Discussion/Learning
- Relaxed connections
- Community table
- Annual Surveys
Turning Points for MDMC

- Panel Discussion
- Media Visit
- Guest Speakers
- Logo
- Community Event Collaboration
Developments & Enhancements

• Speakers (e.g., Lunch & Learn)
• Reach building
• Newsletter
• Single table to multiple rounds
• Community conversations
Challenges

• Marketing
• Length of announcements
• Very broad topic base of interest
• Finding the ideal day and frequency
• Time chronically gets squeezed
• Mission “hijackers”
Future Opportunities

• Ministry Fair
• Conference
• Financial Partnerships
• Vision orientation
• Like-minded community partnerships
• Resource to new groups
Cautions

- Confidentiality
- Maximize collaboration and avoid duplication
- Focus on the essentials
- Delegate
- Keep it meaningful and encouraging
- Leave sufficient room for spontaneous needs
- Protect your mailing list
Nationwide & Online Networks

Special Needs and Disabilities Ministry Leaders Forum (Key Ministry)

Faith Inclusion Network (FIN)
SoCal
Texas
disability ministry
Start with a step of faith

1. Explore MNdmc.org
2. Join Key Ministry’s leader networking group on Facebook
3. Find one or more interested collaborators in your area
4. Get together for coffee and prayer
5. At "just the right time," establish an official schedule
6. Ask for ideas and help
7. Anticipate the surprises of God’s love!