



Elizabeth Ralston Consulting, LLC Presentations

These interactive virtual or in-person presentations range anywhere from 60, 75, 90 minutes long. They include brainstorming exercises, discussions, videos, and using worksheets for reflection and notetaking. You will leave with a copy of the PowerPoint slides, worksheets, and specific strategies to get started right away in your accessibility journey. **Don't see a presentation on this list? I'll be happy to work with you to create a tailor-made presentation.**

A. Everyday Ableism: How it Shows up in Our Daily Lives

Description:

Being an ally to people with disabilities requires understanding one's own implicit bias around disability and the perceptions and realities of disabled experiences. Knowing the roots of ableism is critical to the process of dismantling the views that harm people with disabilities and hold them back from achieving their full potential. This will also promote a welcoming and inclusive workplace culture.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Explain different perceptions of disability.
2. Define ableism, its roots, and recognize examples.
3. Learn strategies for interacting with people with disabilities.
4. Learn strategies for how to be an effective ally.

B. Disability Etiquette: How to be an Ally

Description:

People with disabilities deserve to be treated in a respectful way, as a staff member, volunteer, community member, artist, or program participant. We will explore what allyship looks like. You will learn some specific do's and don'ts when interacting and communicating with people with disabilities. There will be opportunities to problem solve solutions for different scenarios.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Define allyship and recognize examples
2. Recognize that language matters: what to say or not to say
3. Identify positive ways to interact with people with disabilities

C. Accessibility 101

Description:

This presentation is a foundation for those beginning their accessibility journey who desire an understanding of what people with disabilities want and need. We will review basic terminology and reasons why accessibility just makes good sense. We will also be diving into practical ways to accommodate people with hearing, vision, cognitive, and physical disabilities.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Define accessibility and disability.
2. Understand disability statistics for the US and for your region.
3. Name reasons why accessibility needs to be prioritized.
4. Name different types of accommodations for people with various disabilities.

D. Beginning your Accessibility Journey

Description:

You're ready to get started in making accessibility a priority in your organization. But where do you start? Accessibility is a journey- you will learn tips and tricks along the way and still be learning new things. You'll identify where you are in your journey and name a few priorities you want to begin with.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Identify the accessibility stage of your organization
2. Identify the steps to accessibility planning
3. Identify examples of short and long term planning strategies
4. Universal Design vs Inclusive Design

E. Integrating the A into DEI Initiatives

Description:

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion initiatives often do not take into account the importance of accessibility for people with disabilities. If you want to make programs, spaces, and events more inclusive and equitable for those participating, accessibility **must** be top of mind. This presentation will set the stage for understanding why this is critical to building an inclusive and welcoming culture within an organization- for employees, volunteers, board, donors, and community partners. We will explore our biases, discuss terminology, and learn about what it takes to create an access culture in your organization.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Understand what accessibility means and what types of disabilities exist.
2. Understand several models of disability and how they influence perceptions.
3. Discuss strategies for integrating accessibility into the employee life cycle.

F. Integrating Accessibility into Your Organization: A Primer

Description:

Many organizations have had to rethink how they conduct business in the last few years. With the pivot to a virtual world, there is an opportunity for organizations to engage new audiences. People with disabilities represent a billion-dollar sector of the population and are a crucial part of this audience engagement. This means the organization's marketing, communications, programming, and fundraising need to be accessible.

This presentation examines barriers to accessibility and how efforts get sidetracked by the assumptions, stereotypes, and mindsets we have about whom we are addressing. We will talk through practical, simple ways to integrate accessibility practices into your everyday work.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Define accessibility and universal design.
2. Name reasons why accessibility needs to be prioritized.
3. Learn the three main barriers to accessibility.
4. Learn some tips to implementing accessibility.

G. Creating Accessible Virtual Programs, Events, or Meetings

Description:

This presentation reviews the three components of planning accessible virtual events: Pre-Planning, During, and After the event. We will brainstorm questions that arise as part of the planning process.

Learning Outcomes:

4. Learn how to make the case for why accessible virtual events benefit everyone.
5. Become proficient in the three planning stages of making events accessible.
6. Discover how the inquiry process helps to inform event planning.

H. Making your Presentations Welcoming and Inclusive

Description:

If you are a trainer, educator, or presenter, chances are you will be working with participants who have disabilities, whether you know it or not. Since 1 in 4 people has a disability, it is imperative that our sessions be as welcoming and inclusive to all. This may mean doing simple things like turning on captioning, reading comments in the chat, and allowing for different kinds of participation. This presentation will walk you through strategies to make your session accessible for all.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Understand why accessibility matters and your own biases.
2. Understand ways to maximize accessibility as a presenter.
3. Create opportunities to practice.

I. Accessibility in Fundraising: An Equity Issue

Description:

This presentation explores ways in which fundraising strategies can be made more accessible. Fundraising events often lack accommodations like captioning or interpreters, elevators in the physical space, parking options, etc. Planning any kind of program, campaign, appeal, or event should be all-inclusive and benefit everyone, rather than being piecemeal. There is an opportunity to welcome and include everyone, especially with the growing use of virtual platforms, which participants can attend from the comfort of their own homes.

Fundraisers also need to consider accessibility in the way they market their event or campaign, in their donor outreach, and in the actual program itself.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Learn how to make the case for why a focus on accessibility matters in your organization.
2. Learn strategies for including people with disabilities in your fundraising strategies.
3. Plan the questions to ask during the planning process.

J. Creating Accessible Marketing Strategies

Description:

Making spaces, programs, and events accessible requires not only building relationships with disability communities, but also creating accessible marketing so that they engage with your work. This presentation focuses on why it is important to make your marketing accessible and how to improve accessibility in your website, digital platforms, and print materials. We will also talk about how to indicate accessibility within the physical space.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Name reasons why making your marketing accessible is good practice.
2. Learn strategies to make your digital, print, and communications materials accessible.
3. Learn about website accessibility.
4. Discover examples of how to communicate accessibility of the physical space.

Other past presentations, tailored to the client's request:

Engaging Disability Communities

Disability in Healthcare

Barriers to Accessibility: Intersectionality, Disability, and Culture