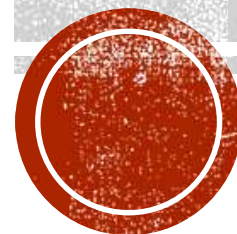


# CREATING ACCESS:



Disability History, Self-  
Advocacy, and the Struggle  
for Community and Inclusion

Andrew B. Marcum, Ph.D.

# WHAT IS THE CENTER FOR SELF ADVOCACY AND WHAT DO WE DO?

## ■ Our Mission:

**Is to help people with developmental disabilities work, advocate within their community, and have an independent, productive lifestyle.**

## ■ Our Vision:

**Is that people with developmental disabilities become community members, make an impact, and be a positive influence in their community and society as a whole.**



# WHAT IS SELF ADVOCACY?

- Self advocacy is the idea that people with disabilities have a right to make decisions about their own lives. It means people with disabilities speaking up for themselves and for others. Self advocacy also means that, although people with disabilities may depend on others for support, they are entitled to control their own resources and how those resources are directed.



ADAPT Protest. Photo  
by Tom Olin



# THE SELF ADVOCACY AND INDEPENDENT LIVING MOVEMENTS

- The disability rights movement is really a collection of movements focused on social justice and legal, political, and human rights for people with disabilities. Self advocacy and the independent living movement are important movements within a disability movement born of efforts to de-institutionalize people with disabilities and provide them the resources, opportunities, services, and physical access they need to live independently in the community. **“Disability is a Strength,” Ed Roberts**



Ed Roberts with Gov.  
Jerry Brown





# SELF ADVOCACY, DISABILITY RIGHTS, AND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

*“How could you go to school, or go on a date, or volunteer somewhere if the only trips deemed worth funding for you were medical trips? How could you get a job if you could only take three trips a week? If you were never on time? How could you raise a family, shop for food, get your kids to and from school or wherever, if all the trips were taken up with work trips (and this for a population with a 70% unemployment rate)?”-Stephanie Thomas, ADAPT organizer*



ADAPT Protest. Photo  
By Tom Olin, 1989



# WHAT IS PEER-TO-PEER TRANSPORTATION TRAINING?

## Peer-to-Peer transportation training means it is...

- Delivered by and for people with disabilities using a peer-to-peer model intended to foster community among people with disabilities, encourage knowledge sharing, empowerment, and self-direction within the disability community, and increase integration and inclusion in society for people with disabilities.



“Greyhound Gives Dogs a Bad Name”



# BARRIERS TO TRANSPORTATION ACCESS

- A lack of public transit in your neighborhood
- A lack of ability to pay for service
- A lack of service within convenient walking distance of fixed routes
- A lack of curb cuts
- A lack of navigable sidewalks
- A lack of security around transit stops

**Can you think of other barriers?**

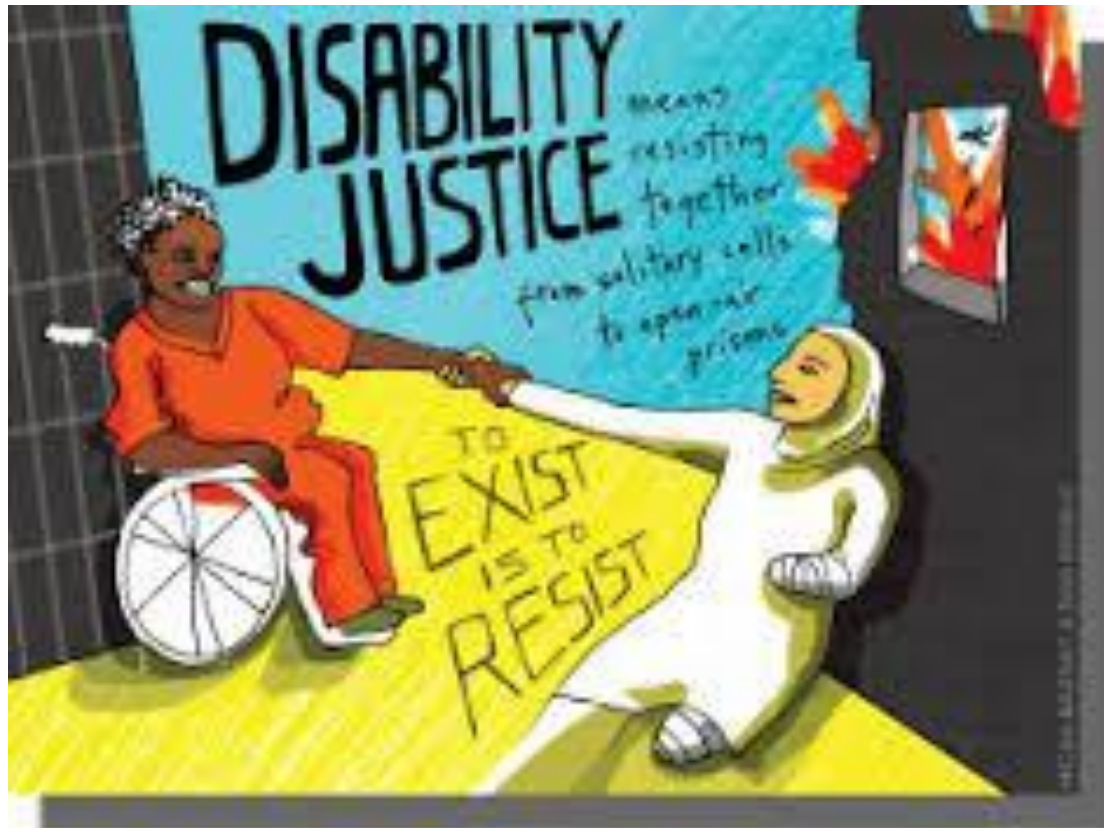


ADAPT Protest. Photo By Tom Olin, 1989.



# MENTORING BUILDS COMMUNITY

Mentoring builds community among people with disabilities. A community of people working together can challenge physical and social barriers to access and promote disability justice.



“Disability Justice”  
Disability Visibility  
Project 2014.





# WHAT IS DISABILITY JUSTICE?

## Disability Justice

*/ˌdɪsəˈbɪlɪti/ /ˈdʒʌstɪs/*

A model of disability that is concerned with intersections, interdependence, embracing & celebrating disability & diversity, questioning privilege, ableism and seeking to dismantle systems of oppression.

[facebook.com/AutismWomensNetwork](https://facebook.com/AutismWomensNetwork)



# WHAT IS UNIVERSAL DESIGN?

The most common definition of universal design is:

“The design of products and environments to be used by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialized Design”-  
*Ron Mace (1985)*



Woman at Disability  
Pride Parade



# WHAT IS UNIVERSAL DESIGN?

“Universal design is a process that enables and empowers a diverse population by improving human performance, health and wellness, and social participation” -*Steinfeld and Maisei (2012)*



“Access is a Civil Right” ADA 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



# PRINCIPLES OF UNIVERSAL DESIGN INCLUDE:

- *Body Fit*-Accommodating wide range of body sizes and abilities.
- *Awareness*-Ensuring critical information is easily perceived.
- *Social Integration*-Treating all groups with dignity and respect.
- *Personalization*-Opportunities for choice and expression of individual preferences.
- *Ease and Flexibility of Use*-Clear and intuitive methods of operation with room for errors.



ADAPT  
Protestors in  
Denver





# WHAT IS ACCESS?

- Access accounts for both the physical environment and its social meanings.
- Access means access to space as well as information, ideas, and experiences.
- Access entails the ability to make choices, take risks, and learn from failure.
- Access recognizes and values differences with dignity and respect for all.
- Access challenges social and structural barriers to equality and inclusion.



“The Capitol Crawl”  
by Tom Olin, 1990



# MAKING EVENTS ACCESSIBLE REQUIRES:

- A broad understanding of accessibility “beyond ramps.”
- Attention to transportation access.
- Presentations that account for a wide range of cognitive and intellectual abilities.
- Accessible bathrooms-  
”Vigilance is not only the price of liberty. It is also the costs of an accessible bathroom”-Hugh G. Gallagher.
- Dignity and Respect for all.



“We Won’t Go Away” The ADA Legacy Project

