



**Redefining disability.  
At work. At home. At play.**

## **July is Disability Pride Month!**

Disability Pride Month originated in commemorating the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). But it has evolved to be much more than a single recognition.

It is a call for dignity; to recognize the inherent value of every person, regardless of disability. It is a call for choice; to realize the right of people with disabilities to make their own decisions.

It is a call for inclusion; to eliminate barriers so persons with disabilities can live, work, learn, shop, and socialize where they choose; and

It is a call to advocacy; an opportunity to remember the importance of disability rights.

So, how can you celebrate Disability Pride Month?

Learn more about the disability experience or to share your disability story using #DisabilityPride and #DisabilityPrideMonth.

- Attend Access Center for Independent Living's free, virtual event in celebration of the ADA. (Details below.)
- Visit this [disability history timeline](#) which dates back to BC!
- Visit the '[Disability History Museum](#)', a virtual project by Straight Ahead Pictures, Inc.
- Watch production created by and with people with disabilities; [Crip Camp](#) and [CODA](#).
- Or read "[Demystifying Disability: What to Know, What to Say, and How to Be an Ally](#):" and "[Disability Visibility: First-Person Stories from the Twenty-First Century](#)".

Join us in celebrating Disability Pride this Saturday! (More information below.)

And take action!

- Reach out to your local officials,
- hire persons with disabilities,
- make sure your public spaces are accessible,
- donate to LEAP, and
- join us on September 21st for "March for Access" in downtown Cleveland.

We hope you will join us as celebrate Disability Pride, this month and all of our advocacy activities all year-long.

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Access Center for Independent Living is hosting a free, virtual event in celebration of the ADA.

**34th Anniversary of the ADA and the fight for Disability Rights**

Friday, July 26, 2024 \* 1 PM to 3 PM EST

[Registration is REQUIRED!](#)

The event begins with the ADA Day Speech by Dayton City Commissioner, Daryl Fairchild. It follows with a mix of documentary viewings and discussions lead by Maria Matzik, Education and Advocacy Specialist at Access Center for Independent Living and Mike Oxford, National Disability Rights Activist.

**Come and Celebrate - Learn - Share!**



## Join LEAP as we celebrate Disability Pride at this free, public event!

We'll be celebrating with all-ages accessible arts and activities stations, live music and performances from Disabled DJ's and performers, speakers from Cuyahoga County and the City of Lakewood, and food available for purchase onsite.

The event begins at with a sensory friendly hour taking place from 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm, including low level music, sensory friendly activities, and smaller crowd sizes.

Our Drumming Group (part of LEAP's adult adaptive recreation program) will be performing around 5pm. For those who've attended LEAP dance parties, DJ Terry will be playing music there too!

This even aims to be fully inclusive, with ASL interpretation and captioning, a wheelchair charging station, accessible restrooms and a universal changing table, a sensory friendly hour and free face masks. Attendees needing additional accommodations should register or request access accommodations via online form, here: [forms.gle/qaxN2iZwxEQEzoiH6](https://forms.gle/qaxN2iZwxEQEzoiH6) or by calling (216) 664-2480, or emailing [adaincle@gmail.com](mailto:adaincle@gmail.com).

# Disability Pride

Music and All Ages and  
Abilities Activities



## SAVE THE DATE!

As we "March for Access" in downtown Cleveland, Saturday, September 21st.

As the more details are announced we will be updating our [event web page](#) and making announcements on social media. [Follow us today!](#)



## Disability Pride Highlights.... So Far!



Photo provided by NOCDO of Beth Glas, LEAP ED with the Resolution.

### City of Lakewood passed a resolution declaring July Disability Pride Month!

NOCDO Co-Chair and LEAP Cleveland Executive Director, Beth Glas received the resolution on behalf of the NOCDO community.

Excerpt from [City of Lakewood, Ohio - Municipal Government resolution](#):

"Whereas, people with disabilities are vital part of our community and make meaningful contributions in the fields of science, healthcare, technology, sports, education, law, arts and many more sectors; ...

Be it Resolved by the city of Lakewood, Ohio... expresses support for and observes Disability Pride Month; celebrates with the Disability Community this and every July, and takes as active role in the prevention



Photo provided by Ohio City Incorporated of 3 persons at the walk.

### Advocating for Accessible Public Spaces!

Thank you to Ohio City Incorporated for hosting a walk through the neighborhood to assess accessibility through the public spaces.

Here are a few "ways you can be a good neighbor and maintain the sidewalks so everyone can move freely through the neighborhood:

- > Trim low hanging or overgrown branches or landscaping to insure a clear path
- > Keep sidewalks clear of debris
- > Repair sidewalks and curb cuts and if there is a delay in having it fixed, paint or chalk the area to insure visibility
- > Power wash or sweep sidewalks to remove small gravel and debris"

of exclusion and discrimination against people with disabilities."

(check out [Ohio City's Facebook page](#) for full list)

**Rounding out our highlights this month is "Wade Oval Wednesday" celebrating Disability Pride tonight - Wednesday, July 24th!**

The evening begins with a pre-show performance by Piano Cleveland, hosted on The Concert Truck and features smooth jazz from Hubb's Groove. The halftime show is performed by Dancing Wheels, an inclusive dance company. Available Service include Momentum Refresh: ADA compliant portable toilets and accessible restroom rentals, ASL Interpreters, and a Wheelchair Charging Station.

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Plan to visit our "[Celebrating LEAP Year](#)" web page as we continue to update our **year-long** activities and program celebrating LEAP and disability pride.



\*|NPO\_NAME|\*

\*|NPO\_ADDRESS|\*

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