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Disabled People and Allies

Here are some specific actions for disabled people and allies who want to participate in Disability Pride Month:

1. **Share Personal Stories:** Share personal stories and experiences related to disability pride. This can be done through social media posts, blogs, videos, or public speaking engagements. Personal stories help raise awareness, challenge stereotypes, and inspire others.
2. **Use Hashtags and Social Media Campaigns:** Use hashtags and social media campaigns to amplify the voices and experiences of disabled individuals. Encourage the use of hashtags such as #DisabilityPride, #DisabilityPrideMonth, #DisabledAndProud, or #NothingAboutUsWithoutUs to unite and connect the disability community.
3. **Organize or Attend Community Events:** Organize or attend events in your community or online to celebrate Disability Pride Month. This can include picnics, webinars, virtual chats, parades, art exhibitions, film screenings, or panel discussions that bring people together to celebrate disability pride, share knowledge, and build connections.
4. **Get involved with Disability Organizations:** Learn about and get involved with disability organizations. This can involve participating in subscribing to newsletters, engaging with social media posts, advocacy efforts, organizing events, providing mentorship, or offering support to individuals with disabilities.
5. **Support Disability-Owned Businesses, Creators and Activists:** Promote and support disability-owned businesses, creators and activists during Disability Pride Month and beyond. Encourage individuals to shop at these businesses, use their services, share their content or collaborate with them on projects. This helps create economic opportunities for disabled entrepreneurs.
6. **Learn, Educate and Advocate:** Broaden your own perspective and/or educate others about disability rights and the importance of disability pride. This can be done through

reading, workshops, research articles, presentations, or engaging in conversations to challenge misconceptions and promote inclusivity.

7. **Support Disability Art and Culture:** Engage with and support disability art and culture. Attend performances, visit exhibitions, read books, or watch films created by disabled artists. This not only supports their work but also helps challenge stereotypes and promotes diverse representation.
8. **Advocate for Accessibility:** Advocate for accessibility in your communities, workplaces, and public spaces. This can involve requesting accommodations, reporting accessibility barriers, or working with local authorities or employers to improve accessibility.
9. **Engage in Political Activism:** Engage in political activism to advocate for disability rights and inclusion. This can include contacting elected officials, participating in protests, or joining disability rights organizations to influence policy changes.

Brands & Organizations

Here are some specific actions that brands or organizations can take to highlight Disability Pride Month and support the disability community:

1. **Representation:** Ensure that individuals with disabilities are represented in your marketing campaigns, advertisements, and media materials. Feature people with disabilities in a variety of roles, showcasing their abilities and accomplishments.
2. **Accessibility Audits:** Conduct accessibility audits of your physical spaces, websites, apps, and digital content. Identify and address barriers that may prevent individuals with disabilities from fully accessing and engaging with your brand.
3. **Inclusive Hiring:** Implement inclusive hiring practices to increase representation of people with disabilities within your organization. Create policies and initiatives that promote diversity, equity, and inclusion in the workplace. Collaborate with disability-focused employment services or organizations to attract a more diverse talent pool.
4. **Collaborations and Partnerships:** Collaborate with disability organizations, influencers, activists, and advocates to co-create content or campaigns that raise awareness about disability pride. By partnering with experts and community leaders, you can ensure that your efforts are inclusive, authentic, and impactful.
5. **Employee Resource Groups (ERGs):** Establish or support Employee Resource Groups dedicated to disabilities or disability pride within your organization. These groups provide a platform for employees to connect, share experiences, and provide insights to inform organizational practices and policies.

6. **Accessibility Training:** Offer accessibility training and awareness programs for your employees to ensure they have a better understanding of disabilities and the needs of individuals with disabilities. This can help foster a more inclusive and supportive workplace culture.
7. **Philanthropic Support:** Allocate resources or provide financial support to disability-focused organizations or initiatives. This can include sponsoring events, making donations, or launching initiatives that directly benefit the disability community.
8. **Public Advocacy:** Use your platform and influence to advocate for disability rights and policies that promote inclusivity. Engage in public discussions, write op-eds, or support campaigns that raise awareness about disability issues and challenge societal barriers.
9. **Product and Service Accessibility:** Prioritize the accessibility of your products and services. Consult with experts to ensure that your offerings are usable and inclusive for individuals with disabilities. Seek feedback from the disability community and make necessary improvements.
10. **Internal Communications:** Incorporate disability pride messaging and awareness into your internal communications. Share stories and experiences of employees with disabilities, promote disability pride events, and provide resources for education and support.

Political Representatives & Local Governments

Here are some specific actions that representatives and local governments can take to highlight Disability Pride Month and support the disability community:

Political Representatives

1. **Proclamation or Resolution:** Issue a proclamation or pass a resolution officially recognizing Disability Pride Month. This can raise awareness and demonstrate their support for the disability community.
2. **Public Statements and Social Media:** Publicly acknowledge Disability Pride Month through statements, social media posts, and press releases. This can highlight the importance of disability pride, celebrate the achievements of individuals with disabilities, and advocate for disability rights and inclusion.
3. **Town Hall Meetings and Public Forums:** Host town hall meetings or public forums focused on disability issues. These events can provide a platform for individuals with disabilities to share their experiences, concerns, and recommendations for policy improvements.

4. **Legislation and Policy Advocacy:** Champion legislation and policies that promote disability rights, accessibility, and inclusivity. Encourage them to support bills that address employment, education, healthcare, housing, and other areas where individuals with disabilities face barriers.
5. **Collaborations with Disability Organizations:** Collaborate with local disability organizations, advocacy groups, and experts to inform their policies and initiatives. By including the disability community in the decision-making process, representatives can ensure that their actions are aligned with the needs and aspirations of individuals with disabilities.
6. **Accessible Communication:** Emphasize the importance of accessible communication in political activities. Provide captioning, sign language interpretation, and other accommodations for individuals with disabilities during public events, meetings, and press conferences.
7. **Constituent Engagement:** Actively engage with constituents with disabilities. Organize meet-and-greet events specifically for individuals with disabilities, listen to their concerns, and seek input on policy matters. This engagement helps ensure that the voices of individuals with disabilities are heard and considered in political decision-making.
8. **Collaboration across Party Lines:** Collaborate on disability-related issues. Disability rights and inclusion should be nonpartisan concerns, and working across party lines can help advance meaningful policies and initiatives.
9. **Accessible Voting:** Support and promote accessible voting methods to ensure that individuals with disabilities can exercise their right to vote independently and with dignity. This includes accessible polling places, voting machines, and informational materials.
10. **Personal Learning and Training:** Participate in disability awareness training and engage in personal learning to better understand the challenges faced by individuals with disabilities. This can help inform policies and enhance the ability to be effective advocates.

Local Governments

1. **Proclamation or Resolution:** Issue a proclamation or pass a resolution officially recognizing Disability Pride Month. This formal declaration can raise awareness and demonstrate the government's commitment to supporting the disability community.
2. **Accessibility Audits:** Conduct accessibility audits of public spaces, facilities, and services. Identify and address any barriers or gaps that may hinder accessibility for individuals with disabilities. Make necessary improvements to ensure inclusivity.
3. **Inclusive Events and Celebrations:** Organize inclusive events and celebrations during Disability Pride Month. This can include virtual events, parades, festivals, art exhibitions,

or community gatherings that celebrate disability pride and promote inclusivity. Ensure that these events are accessible and welcoming to all.

4. **Collaboration with Disability Organizations:** Collaborate with disability organizations, advocacy groups, and experts in the community. Seek their input, feedback, and guidance on policies, programs, and initiatives related to disability inclusion and support.
5. **Public Awareness Campaigns:** Create public awareness campaigns that promote disability pride and educate the community about disability rights and issues. This can involve distributing informational materials, launching social media campaigns, or hosting educational workshops and seminars.
6. **Accessibility Upgrades:** Prioritize accessibility upgrades in public infrastructure, such as sidewalks, parks, and public buildings. This includes installing ramps, accessible restrooms, tactile signage, and other accommodations that ensure equal access for all residents.
7. **Disability Employment Initiatives:** Implement disability employment initiatives within local government departments. Set targets for hiring individuals with disabilities and create inclusive workplaces that accommodate their needs. Lead by example and encourage other local businesses to follow suit.
8. **Disability Advisory Committees:** Establish disability advisory committees or councils within local government structures. These can include disabled individuals, disability advocates, and experts who provide insights, recommendations, and feedback on disability-related matters. Ensure these groups represent a range of disability experiences.
9. **Training and Sensitization:** Provide disability awareness training and sensitization programs for government employees and officials. This helps foster a more inclusive and understanding environment and improves interactions with disabled residents.
10. **Inclusive Policy Development:** Develop and implement inclusive policies that prioritize disability rights and inclusion. This can include accessible emergency management plans, inclusive transportation policies, and housing regulations that address the needs of individuals with disabilities.

Schools

Here are some specific actions for schools that want to highlight Disability Pride Month.

K-12 Schools

1. **Inclusive Curriculum:** Review and incorporate disability history, culture, and achievements into the curriculum. Include literature, historical figures, and diverse

perspectives that highlight the contributions and experiences of individuals with disabilities.

2. **Assemblies and Presentations:** Host school assemblies or presentations that raise awareness about disability pride. Invite guest speakers, disability advocates, or individuals with disabilities to share their stories, experiences, and achievements with students.
3. **Inclusive Events and Activities:** Organize inclusive events and activities that celebrate disability pride. This can include art exhibits, talent shows, guest performances, or sports events that showcase the abilities and talents of individuals with disabilities.
4. **Disability Awareness Training:** Host disability awareness training for students, teachers, and staff. These trainings can promote understanding, empathy, and inclusive behaviors towards students with disabilities.
5. **Inclusive Language and Policies:** Review and adopt inclusive language and policies that promote an inclusive and respectful environment for students, staff and caregivers with disabilities. This includes addressing language use, providing accommodations, and promoting anti-bullying policies.
6. **Disability Pride Display:** Set up a disability pride display in the school. This can include artwork, photographs, quotes, or informational posters that educate and raise awareness about disability pride and the disability community.
7. **Inclusive Clubs and Organizations:** Establish student clubs or organizations focused on disability pride and inclusion. These clubs can organize activities, discussions, and projects that promote awareness, understanding, and support for individuals with disabilities.

Higher Education Institutions

1. **Disability Cultural Centers:** Establish disability cultural centers or resource centers on campus. These centers can serve as hubs for disability-related activities, resources, and support services, fostering a sense of community and pride. Provide an online hub for resources as well.
2. **Disability Studies Courses:** Develop courses or programs in disability studies. These courses can explore disability from interdisciplinary perspectives and promote critical thinking and awareness of disability rights and issues.
3. **Guest Lectures and Panels:** Organize guest lectures, panel discussions, or conferences on disability-related topics. Invite disability scholars, activists, and professionals to share their expertise and insights with students, faculty, and the wider community.

4. **Accessibility Initiatives:** Include ongoing accessibility initiatives on physical campuses and online campuses. This includes providing accessible classrooms, healthy environments, digital resources, assistive technologies, and campus facilities. Ensure that disability accommodations and services are well-publicized and easily accessible.
5. **Inclusive Campus Events:** Host inclusive campus events that celebrate Disability Pride Month. This can include art exhibitions, film screenings, workshops, or performances that showcase the talents and achievements of individuals with disabilities.
6. **Disability-Inclusive Employment Programs:** Collaborate with career services or disability support services to develop disability-inclusive employment programs. This can include internships, job fairs, or networking events that connect students with disabilities to career opportunities and employers committed to inclusion.
7. **Inclusive Policies and Procedures:** Review and implement inclusive policies and procedures that support students and staff with disabilities. This includes accessible admissions processes, accommodations, inclusive classroom practices, and mental health support tailored to the needs of students and staff with disabilities.