

Summer
2020



**30th Celebration of the Americans
with Disabilities Act of 1990**

July 23rd, 2020

8:30AM-2:00PM

ZOOM

TELECONFERENCE

Conference Details

Don't miss this amazing opportunity!

This event is OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

It will greatly benefit:

- Person with a disability
- Family of a person with a disability
- Friends of a person with a disability
- Students and Professionals

**We are able to
offer 4 Social
Work CEU's
through SW
Examiners of ND**

**YOU DO HAVE
TO REGISTER**

Contact Vicki at DCIL 701-222-3636 or go to our
website: Dakotacil.org for registration information.

Mission Statement:

The Dakota Center for Independent Living believes in
empowering people with disabilities by minimizing barriers,
advocating for inclusion and promoting consumer choice.

DAKOTA CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

Dakota Challenge

PETE'S PURCHASE



Pete with his new lawn mower and tiller purchased with stimulus money. Pete stated, "I have wanted these machines for a long time. I stay busy using them and also growing my new plants."



A picture of Pete in his light-heated greenhouse with his plants.

A Few Our Consumers Success Stories

GOALS ACHIEVED FOR BREANNA

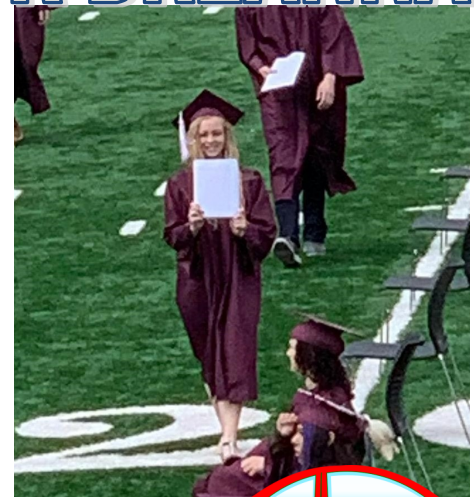


DRIVERS

PERMIT



**HIGH
SCHOOL**



AND OFF TO COLLEGE SHE GOES, WITH A SCHOLARSHIP FROM BIS/MAN MAYORS COMMITTEE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES.

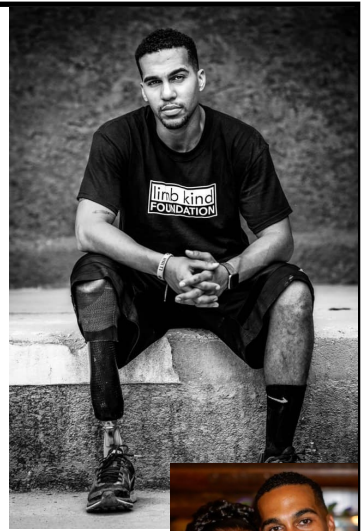




Bruce Klootwyk Jr. has a Masters degree in Business Administration from the University of Mary in Bismarck, North Dakota. Bruce's dad, Bruce Sr., is a financial advisor at Raymond James in Bismarck. When Bruce was asked if his dad would present with him about what it is like raising a child with a disability, Bruce informed us that his dad never treated him any different than he treated his sister, who doesn't have a disability.

Bruce Sr. is a financial advisor at Raymond James in Bismarck. When Bruce was asked if his dad would present with him about what it is like raising a child with a disability, Bruce informed us that his dad never treated him any different than he treated his sister, who doesn't have a disability.

Robert & Lauren bring you their story. Lauren raised Robert as a single mother. Robert was born with Fibular Hemimelia. At the age of 10 months old, he had his right leg, below the knee, amputated. Their Motto is "Anything's Possible and this Mother & Son combination have a story to tell."
<https://robertanthony.us/>

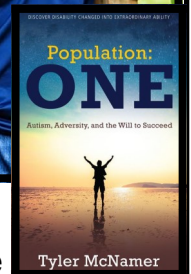
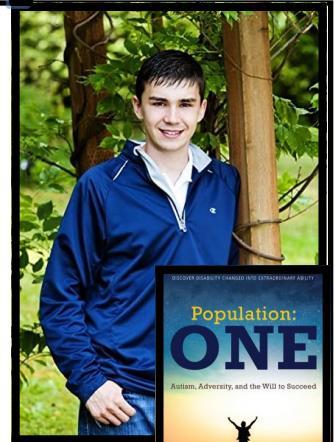


July 23rd ADA Conference Speaker Lineup

After multiple cross country tours, playing to thousands of fans and an excellent run on Season 9 of NBC's **The Voice**, **Blind Joe** is fast becoming a household name. Although if you asked him, he would humbly tell you, "I'm just bringin' that good stuff back."
<https://www.blindjoe.com/>



Best Selling Author and Speaker **Tyler McNamer** provides inspiration, education and hope to all! He speaks to thousands of people across the country, hosts a weekly webinar series, and is the Co-Founder of AutismWorks. He creates the possibility for disabled people to find their passion, transforming their disability into a unique ability. One of his sayings is to never Dis' your Ability. Transforming Disability into Unique Ability as a Population of ONE is a groundbreaking talk that offers listeners the ability to see life through the eyes of a young man with autism.
(www.autismworks.com).





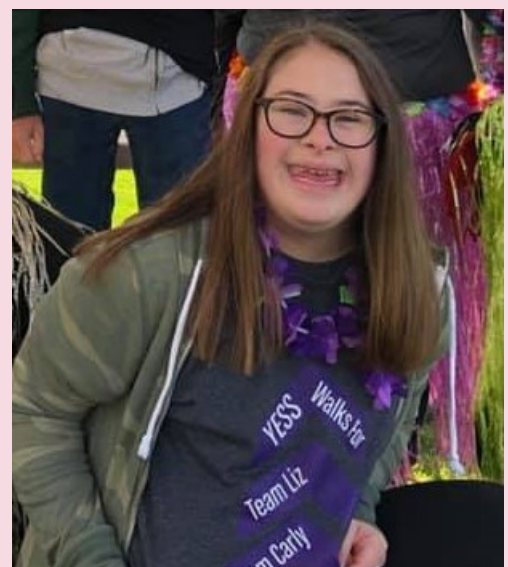
PERSONAL ESSAY BY LIZ

Liz is the Secretary of Youth Empowering Social Status (YESS)

One of the meaningful changes that I've seen in myself since I started college is that I am more organized. I put appointments, classes, and meetings into my planner. This helps me get to things on time. I also use alerts to help remind myself that I need to go to classes, study sessions, and meetings with my advisor. I also want to add that I am using my independent living time with my mentor to help me budget and save money to get a new iPhone and I got my new phone this week. I lived in a dorm on Minot State University campus and I am very independent. I know how to order junk food from Door Dash, and I use Lyft by myself to get to MSU Beaver hockey games and to work. I also know how to tell my parents to back off and not be overprotective.

When I started college, I was in Advertising, marketing and public relations, but I had to think about what I am really passionate about and it came to me that I am really good with children, especially children with disabilities and need special education. I decided to change my major to Early Childhood paraprofessional associate degree. I have taken many classes this year in that area. Everyone has told me that I should audit my classes, but I advocated to take all my classes for credit. I am proud that I passed my classes. I am taking cooperative education class this semester and have an internship in our local Head Start in Minot. There I have experienced that I am enjoying this field. I have advocated to come back to college for a third year to complete my degree. I had a job shadow at the same preschool that I went to. At Bismarck Early Childhood Education Program (BECEP), I followed my own teachers, Ruth, Kay, and Leann. They showed the kids a picture of me as a preschooler. This made me think that I might want to work at BECEP when I am done with school.

By going to college, I have learned how to save money, get around town by myself, and get to appointments on time. I have learned to be more responsible for my own things. I have learned to cook meals, and I have to be independent. I have had many jobs and now I know that I want to work with all children, both with and without disabilities. I also am part of a group called Youth Empowering Social Status (YESS). I am the secretary. I love being with other friends that have disability and those that don't.



PERSONAL ESSAY BY BREANNA

As I thought about this essay, it brought to mind how I felt growing up. I could sense that I was different than all the other kids. It wasn't just because I lived with my Grandma. I remember how hard it was to talk to people not only because I was hard to understand, but also because I couldn't think of anything to say. I didn't understand boundaries back in grade school. I was often sad that I didn't have a lot of friends and stood on the outside just waiting for someone, anyone to ask me to play. I had trouble sitting still and paying attention. I could not focus when I should have. I needed to keep moving. Why did I struggle with these situations when no one else seemed to.

As I got older, I understood I have some disabilities. These disabilities make things more of a challenge for me than for the other kids. So, finally I had the answer to the question of why I am different. Through some Occupational and Speech Therapy, which I've been going to every week since grade school. I have come to not only understand my disabilities, I can explain them to teachers and employers. I have grown to be a self-advocate. I've learned coping skills and can speak as clearly as everyone else. Most people don't even know that I have disabilities. Some say I've learned to hide them well. I know they are wrong. I've grown FROM them. I've learned how to be successful with them. My disabilities are part of who I am. No longer do I sit on the sidelines waiting for someone, anyone to ask me to join in. I invite others to join in. When I am struggling with class work, I ask for help. I joined the girls volleyball team in Middle School and played through my first year of High School. I was even nominated for Homecoming Queen this year. What an honor that was. I was selected to be the Laurels President at church. This is quite an honor to me. I was told, I am a good example to other girls. I am friendly to everyone and showed them I genuinely care about them. I was a leader at summer camp, two years in a row. I helped younger kids to get settled and I enjoyed being with and around people.

During High School, I was given the opportunity to include work experience in my schedule. I had several different job opportunities.

(Continued on page 6)



(Continued from page 5 Breanna.....)

My favorite was working at the YDC on Century Avenue. I was place with pre-kindergarten children. That is when I knew, I LOVE working with children, and this is my calling. This is what I am supposed to be doing with my life.



They even hired me as an employee once an opening came open. I am determined to do well in college just as I did in High School. I will become a teacher someday, no matter what. I am willing and able to put in the time and effort required to complete my degree requirements to achieve my goal to be the best kindergarten teacher that I can be.

I am not ashamed of or embarrassed by my disabilities anymore. Instead, I have chosen to embrace them and use them to grow to be a better person. I hope I've made some positive impact on the lives I have touched and I will continue to do so, for the rest of my life.



Dakota Center for Independent Living is dedicated to assisting people with disabilities, and or their caregivers overcome the challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. If you are in need of services or would like more information call the center at 701-222-3636.

A DRIVER'S PERMIT COURSE IS BEING OFFERED AT DAKOTA CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

If you are a person with a disability and need assistance in preparing for your driver's permit test, contact Carol, 222-3636 Bismarck, or contact Mary Beth 483-4363 in Dickinson .



SCHILLING BUILDING

Businesses located in the Shilling Building at 1400 43rd Avenue, have done an amazing job keeping with the Americans with Disabilities Act mandates and suggestions. Cary has done an amazing job at keeping the building and businesses in the building accessible. THANK YOU!!!!

Wide entry into dressing rooms



Wide isles in the store



Starbucks has Accessible tables



GROVE SALON

TOTALLY ACCESSIBLE BEAUTY SALON. THESE GREAT LADIES TOTALLY 'GET IT' AS FAR AS ACCESSIBILITY. THEY HAVE SUCH A PASSION TO MAKE SURE THAT ANYONE CAN ENTER AND BE SERVED AT THEIR ESTABLISHMENT. CALL THEM AND SUPPORT THEIR BUSINESS. YOU WILL FALL IN LOVE.

Hannah Jirges (701)-391-1643

Kayla Rafferty (508)-450-3818



Looking Forward

to an updated DCIL Website
dakotacil.org
COMING SOON

Dakota Center for Independent Living
3111 East Broadway Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58501

Phone: 701-222-3636
Toll Free: 1-800-489-5013
Fax: 701-222-0511

DCIL has a satellite office in
Dickinson, ND. They can be
Reached at: 1-701-483-4363

Find us on FaceBook at :
Dakota Center for Independent Living
Youth Empowering Social Status—YESS

Website address: dakotacil.org

If you would like to receive the newsletter by e-mail, please contact Vicki at DCIL by calling (701) 222-3636 .

Also, available in alternative format—upon request.

DCIL was established in 1980