

Anabaptist Disabilities Network

Annual Report 2021



In 2021, Anabaptist Disabilities Network:

- Co-sponsored the [MC USA Accessibility Resolution](#) along with four congregations. The resolution came before the delegate body in May of 2022.
- Gave matching funds to congregations to increase accessibility through our [Barrier-Free Grant program](#). Projects have included accessible restrooms, renovation of a camp bathhouse, and a summer church camp for Deaf children.
- Published a [Disability Language Guide](#) which was included in the new style guide for MennoMedia.
- Offered three **webinars**:
 - *Do We Want to Get Well? Healing What Divides Us* with Amy Julia Becker in January
 - *Providing Mutual Support when People Experience Mental Illness* (part 1) with Janelle Bitikofer in June
 - *Churchwide Change: Reducing Stigma and Supporting People who Experience Mental Illness* (part 2) with Janelle Bitikofer in October
- Presented at multiple conferences:
 - Led a presentation on inclusive mission trips for youth/young adults with disabilities at the Faith Inclusion Network Community for All Conference
 - Led an ADN networking group at the 2021 Church of the Brethren Annual Conference
 - Coordinated accessibility at MennoCon 21
 - Presented 2 workshops on disability and hosted an online virtual exhibit booth at MennoCon 21
 - Led a workshop on aging and disability at the Church of the Brethren National Older Adult Conference
- Published:
 - **Connections Newsletter** (Spring – Transitioning to Adulthood, Summer – Hearing Loss and Deafness, Fall – Including Children with Disabilities in Congregational Life)
 - **Opening Doors blog** articles

Our Staff: Jeanne Davies, executive director
Kate Szambecki, resource director (hired in August 2021)
Emily Hunsberger, office administrator

Field Associates are volunteer professionals who bring their wisdom and experience to ADN. *Staff and Field Associates are available for accessibility assessments, consultations, preaching, classes, or workshops.*

Our expense budget for 2021 is \$87,200. We rely on support from both individuals and congregations. In May of 2021, we began our Building the Future Partners campaign, asking ADN friends for a commitment of \$1000/year for 3 years. So far, we have 34 partners and are hoping for 6 more.

We invite congregations interested in increasing their accessibility to consider designating a congregational disability advocate or becoming a partner congregation.