

WHAT ARE DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES?

Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) are a group of conditions due to an impairment in physical, learning, language, or behavior areas. These conditions begin during the developmental period, may impact day-to-day functioning, and usually last throughout a person's lifetime.

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

- **Become a corporate partner**
 - Join our Corporate Advisory Network (CAN)
- **Volunteer**
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 - Host a skills workshop
 - Read to our students
 - Volunteer at events
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Empowering People. Building Futures.

Founded in 1975, Birch Family Services is a leading provider of education, employment, and community support services for individuals with autism and developmental disabilities and their families in New York City. From preschool to graduation, employment, housing and beyond, Birch provides fully integrated programs and services to support individuals in achieving their goals across their lifetime.

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES BREAKING THE BARRIERS

Nearly everyone faces hardships and challenges at one time or another. People with I/DD often face barriers that can limit their opportunities to lead a fulfilling life.

Many people are unaware of the challenges people with I/DD face and are unsure of how to be more inclusive and accessible to their needs.

Everyone can contribute to change. The best way to combat the barriers facing people with I/DD is to raise awareness and understanding about access, equity, and inclusion.

Children with I/DD may require additional support services than other children. However, with supports, children with I/DD can still learn and thrive.

Children with I/DD have the right to a free and appropriate public education. A quality education for students with I/DD should maximize their life skills through greater education, occupational, and social opportunities with accessible critical supports and resources.

Many people with I/DD have fulfilling careers, however, only 44% of adults with I/DD aged 21-64 are in the work force. Many others are capable of working, but have not yet been given the opportunity.

People with I/DD can be employed in companies alongside people without disabilities and earn competitive wages. Through the support of diverse corporate partners we can eliminate misconceptions and biases about people with I/DD with the ultimate goal of removing barriers to employment.

DID YOU KNOW?

1 in 6
children aged 3 through 17 years have at least one developmental disability*

1 in 15
US children have more than one developmental disability

6.5
million Americans living with an intellectual disability

125,000
children born with an I/DD each year

*as of 2019

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