

Library services for people with learning disabilities

Andrea Miller-Nesbitt, MLIS
School of Information Studies
McGill University

Learning Disabilities

“...affect the acquisition, organization, retention, understanding or use of verbal or nonverbal information...one or more of the following processes related to learning, thinking, perceiving or remembering are impaired in people with LD; language processing, phonological processing, visual spatial processing, processing speed, memory and attention and executive functions such as decision making”



Legislation

“no qualified individual with a disability shall, by reason of such disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs, or activities of a public entity”



Accessibility

“integrating adaptive technologies for the benefit of disabled persons can only improve and strengthen library service, further eliminate barriers, and help prepare all students (disabled or not) for a knowledge-based society”



Programs and Services

“...to serve the whole community, [librarians] must actively reach out to ‘disadvantaged’ individuals... librarians should enter into partnership with their local community to gain insights as to how to best shape the service delivery to meet the various resource needs of the people within the community.”



Thank you!