



Script for Church Announcements

The National Benevolent Association is working to better understand the experiences of people living with disabilities in our church. Right now, one of the things they've realized is that we don't actually have a clear picture of who is present in our communities—who is here, what their experiences are, and what support or barriers they might be navigating. Therefore, a Research and Design team has been working to find some answers to these questions.

We invite you to hear the following definition we are using for disability and think whether you might be part of our answer to these questions! **(Optional to show on screen for those with technology available)**

"Disability arises when a person's participation is impaired by physical, social, technological, or attitudinal environments that are not designed to support the full range of human diversity. These barriers often require individuals to seek additional assistance to navigate the world. Disability is not located solely within an individual, but in how society accommodates, or fails to accommodate diversity."

That means disabilities can look different for each person. For some, it may be visible. For others, it may not. For some, it's something they've lived with all their lives. For others, it may come and go.

This Research and Design has created a short survey to help them begin gathering this picture: how many people in our denomination are living with disabilities, what kinds of experiences are present, and how the church can grow in being a place of access, inclusion, and belonging.

If this is part of your story—or if you're still figuring that out—you are invited. If someone you love within our Church would resonate with this invitation, you're welcome to share it with them too.

The survey is simple, and your responses will be held with confidentiality and care and will be used to help guide future programs and opportunities that NBA can offer.

You can find the survey going to www.nbacares.org/disabilities or access it through the QR code on the screen. **(Optional to show on screen for those with technology available)**

Thank you for being part of this—this is one way we begin listening more faithfully to one another.