

**From:** Administration for Community Living <acl@public.govdelivery.com>  
**To:** Kester, Tonykester@aging.sc.gov  
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**March 30, 2016**

## **The Power of "Side by Side"**

Every March we celebrate Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month and the many contributions people with developmental disabilities (DD) make to our society. This year, the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities, Association of University Centers on Disabilities, and National Disability Rights Network chose the theme "Side by Side" to highlight the principle that everyone benefits when people with and without disabilities live, learn, and earn "side by side" in the community.

This idea of true inclusion and integration is the backbone of our work at ACL, and we are proud to work with our DD network partners to make it a reality for all people.

However, it is not only people with and without disabilities who are stronger working side by side. This simple, yet powerful idea also applies to all of us working *within* the disability community.

[Read Commissioner Bishop's blog about the power of working across silos, cultures, disabilities, generations, and movements.](#)

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