

(Re)Learning Moment

Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

Each year, March is recognized and celebrated as **Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month (DDAM)**. In 1987, President Ronald Reagan officially recognized this commemoration to increase awareness of “the needs and the potential of Americans with developmental disabilities.” The CDC defines developmental disabilities as a group of conditions impairing physical, learning, language, or behavior areas. Recent estimates show one in six United States’ children (or 17%) have one or more developmental disabilities such as attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), autism spectrum disorder, and hearing loss. Each year, the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD) creates a social media campaign to highlight this month.

(Re)Learn Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

- [2023 Theme: Beyond the Conversation](#) - webpage on this year’s theme
- [The Accessible Stall](#) - podcast with Emily Ladau & Kyle Khachadurian
- [It’s Time For A Reimagining Of Disability Etiquette](#) - contributor article on Forbes by Andrew Pulrang (2020, January 17)
- ["Treat Me Like Everyone Else"](#) - video clip of a group discussing the treatment of people with disabilities

Learn about FUTURE at UT Knoxville

[The FUTURE Postsecondary Education Program](#) is a two- or three-year course of study that empowers students to achieve gainful employment in the community. FUTURE is a comprehensive program that helps young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities make a successful transition from high school to adult life. During the program, we provide students with specially designed FUTURE classes, the opportunity to audit undergraduate courses, and an internship on or off campus.

Want to support the FUTURE program? You can [donate](#), [host an intern](#), and/or [schedule an intellectual/developmental disability office training](#).