



Ministry of Belonging:

Fostering authentic connection between
young adults with and without
intellectual disabilities

Online at www.larcheusa.org or @larcheusa.

Goal: Reflect and grow toward authentic belonging for people with intellectual disabilities.



1. Who is L'Arche?
2. What is Belonging?
3. Best Practices
4. Questions
5. Conversations

What is L'Arche?



We are people
with and without
intellectual
disabilities
sharing life and
friendships in
community...



Celebrating and making known the gifts of people
with intellectual disabilities.





L'ARCHE[®]
USA

● 5 EMERGING COMMUNITIES (PROJECTS)

● 18 MEMBER COMMUNITIES INDEPENDENT 501(C)3 ENTITIES

Adam &
Therese



Best Practices

for Building Ministries of Belonging



1. Access
2. Inclusive Programming
3. Consistency
4. Person to Person
5. Listening and Patience
6. Celebration
7. Leadership Opportunities

I. Access

- *Have young adults with IDD been invited?*
- *How can you prepare a space that is welcoming?*
- *Who do you know?*

2. Inclusive Programming

- *Is your ministry event **accessible**?*
- *How can you provide support to those with IDD who are attending if it is needed?*

3. Consistency



- *Do young adults with IDD know what to expect?*
- *Who is showing up regularly?*
- *Who is not showing up? Why?*

4. Person to Person

- What **specific** supports do young adults with IDD in your parish need?
- What **gifts** do young adults with IDD in your parish have to offer?
- How can you foster relationships outside of ministry events?

5. Listening and Patience

- *Have you listened to what young adults with IDD in your parish are asking for?*
- *Have you prioritized the **results** or the **ministry**?*
- *What is the pace of your event?*

6. Celebration

- *What is worth **celebrating**?*
- *Have you taken stock of the simple successes?*
- *Is celebration a regular theme in your ministry work?*

7. Leadership Opportunities

- *Where can young adults with IDD be invited to **lead**?*
- *How will giving young adults with IDD leadership opportunities help extend the reach of your ministry?*





Questions?

Conversations

1. Dream **BIG!** What would your ideal “ministry of belonging” look like?
2. Start **SMALL!** Who do you know? Are there existing relationships between adults with and without IDD that you can highlight and speak to?
3. Where can young adults with IDD be invited to **LEAD?**
4. Showing up to this presentation might be your first step toward building a “ministry of belonging. Nice work! What is your **SECOND** step?

Get Involved with L'Arche!

- Attend virtual events
- Connect with L'Arche locally
- Donate
- Sign up for quarterly newsletter
- Contact us





Ministry of Belonging

Thank you!

Online at www.larcheusa.org or @larcheusa

Contact Parker at pdavis@larcheusa.org