

2026 Disability Leadership Summit

Advancing Leaders with Disabilities in the workplace

February 24-25, 2026 (online)

An annual, nationwide conference that brings together hundreds of professionals across sectors to support the advancement of leaders with disabilities in the workplace.

- **Network** with other leaders with disabilities across sectors.
- Gain practical advice on leveraging ERGs/BRGs to **advance** careers.
- Participate in workshops on personal **leadership** planning, brand-building, and effective storytelling.

“Building my brand can put me in positions where I can cultivate more inclusive workplaces.”

— 2025 Summit attendee

2025 Speakers



Rachel Arfa
Keynote Speaker
Commissioner,
City of Chicago



Catarina Rivera
Keynote Speaker
DEIA Consultant
and Founder,
Blindish Latina



Eric Harris
Director of Public
Policy, Disability
Rights California



Kim Holmes
President & CEO,
Kim B. Holmes
Consulting



Kim Knackstedt
Principal Consultant,
Unlock Access, LLC



Zane Landin
Associate Product
Marketing Manager,
Google



Emily Voorde
Founder & CEO,
INTO Strategies



Rebecca Williford
President & CEO,
Disability Rights
Advocates

Disabili+y Lead

Opportunities For Partnership

We are seeking partners who want to build the business case for inclusive leadership, shift power to people with disabilities, strengthen networks of professionals with disabilities, and increase visibility of leaders with disabilities.

Partnering with the Summit is an opportunity to:

- Position your organization as a leader in inclusive leadership development.
- Influence the future of professional disability leadership.
- Connect meaningfully with an engaged national audience of leaders with disabilities.

Partners receive free registrations, the option to introduce a keynote speaker, and the opportunity for one employee to participate in an advisory group session shaping the Summit. All partners are recognized on Disability Lead marketing channels, reaching more than 10,000 engaged and influential leaders.

Summit Testimonials

"I really appreciate the virtual format, as someone with Long Covid. And the two Keynote speakers were dynamite. The honesty and inspiration they brought was something I really needed in this moment."

— Jessica Olson, Community Tech Network

"I struggle to advocate for myself. This Summit gave me more courage to advocate for myself, and that will inherently help me advocate for others better too."

— Brooke Ellis, DePaul University

2025 Partners

abbvie

HCSC Health
Care
Service
CorporationSM

cruise

MAY & STANLEY SMITH
CHARITABLE TRUST

AARP


THE CHICAGO COMMUNITY TRUST
EQUITY • OPPORTUNITY • PROSPERITY

 THE
FIELD
FOUNDATION
OF ILLINOIS

Bally's
CHICAGO CASINO

Disabili+y Lead

Key Stats from 2025



125+ participants with disabilities and allies from across the country and across sectors.



88% of attendees reported the Summit met or exceeded expectations.



206,000+ impressions across Disability Lead social media channels.



9 session recordings made available for post-Summit learning and sharing.