## **Chiles, Christie (DDC)**

From: NACDD <media@nacdd.org>
Sent: NACDD <media@nacdd.org>
Monday, March 3, 2025 10:15 AM

To: Monts, Brandi (DDC)

**Subject:** DDAM 2025: We're Here All Year!

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We're Here All Year: Meet Us. Know Us. Involve Us.



This March, the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD) is emphasizing that community, accessibility, and opportunities for people with developmental disabilities should be recognized and championed every day—not just in March.

The 2025 theme of Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month is <u>We're Here All Year!</u> Individuals with developmental disabilities are valuable members of our communities and deserve full participation in all aspects of life, including education, employment, recreation, and civic engagement.

Established in 1987 by President Ronald Reagan, Developmental Disabilities

Awareness Month highlights the importance of building a society where people with disabilities are empowered to contribute to their communities.

While March provides an opportunity for heightened awareness, true awareness happens when we commit to creating accessible environments and productive opportunities year-round.

## Let's Celebrate All Year Long.

Through the 'We're Here All Year' campaign, we want to share that people with developmental disabilities are working, going to school, volunteering, and participating in their community – just like all of us. When they are engaged and involved in their local community, it is a win-win for everyone.



NACDD is seeking photo submissions to show everyday life of individuals with lived disability experiences across the country. Individuals with lived experience are encouraged to submit one (1) photo of themselves in the community – whether it is getting a coffee, going to work, hanging out with family or friends, etc – and telling us the story behind the photo.

Submissions are being accepted till March 31, 2025 and will be unveiled in an online photo gallery later this spring. Learn more and submit your photo <a href="here">here</a>.

Celebrate Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month



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