

"Abilities Ministries has participated at Kingdom Bound for the past two years... They have done an outstanding job educating us on the importance of ministry to our friends and families with disabilities. The worship team treated us to an anointed time in the presence of the Lord. We highly recommend this ministry to everyone".

Donna Russo
Executive Director
KingdomBound Ministries

"I admire your goal to maintain balance between disabled and non-disabled people – it means that yours is truly a ministry that's all about inclusion, not one where disabled people are "misfits" who can't attend a "regular" church".

Carina Kwok
Communications Advisor
Billy Graham Evangelistic Association of Canada

"I am excited about the start and vision for growth of this much needed church opportunity. It is a sacred space that embraces and makes room for ability rather than accommodating and making special exceptions for disability. Here, disability is not a barrier, it is a pathway into the presence of God. It is about ministering with and to the whole community of God. It's not about 'your disabled and I'm not', it is all about dwelling and communing together in the Imago Dei. All have a place to belong, participate, be ministered too, and to minister - it is living Luke 4:18-21".

Dr. Neil Cudney
Director of Pastoral Ministries
Christian Horizons

"This year I was introduced to a ministry in Toronto called the Abilities Ministries. They are impressive. Their staff and vision are excellent, and have all levels of ability. They model inclusion and invitation to all people. Their goal is to have 50% of their participants having a disability. Their services are lively and show a part of the spirit of Christ that many churches miss. If you are in Toronto on a Sunday you should attend their partnering church..."

Ed Epp
Executive Director
CBM Canada

"Jaime Castro and his leadership team from the Abilities Ministries participated in a weekend conference we hosted here at Centre Street Church, No Limbs To No Limits, as feature speakers, along with Nick Vujicic, Justin Hines and other active leaders in the disability community. We are very grateful for their inspiring message of community inclusion, self-advocacy and equal opportunity and their faithful witness as a ministry".

Dallas Frank
Special Needs Pastor
Centre Street Church

"We are grateful to the Abilities Ministries and to the insights that we received from Jaime Castro as to how we can more fully serve the body of Christ. The Morningstar family has welcomed some wonderful people with abilities and values that are enriching us all. We look forward to growing more in this area for the glory of God".

Dr. Robert MacGregor
Senior Pastor
Morningstar Christian Fellowship

Inclusion involves the whole community and it begins with you!



Inclusion of people with disabilities is a human right and Biblical Mandate!



A disability rights Christian group & Accessibility network

www.abilitiesministries.org

Respecting the choices and rights of people with disabilities to equally participate within the whole church by promoting a fully inclusive and integrated worship experience for people of all abilities

Let's Intergrate!

The Abilities Ministries (TAM) is a disability rights Christian group and accessibility network that enables churches to host *Abilities Outreaches* and *Accessibility Sundays* for the purpose of equally inviting, including and integrating people with disabilities within the regular worship services, events and programs of the church. TAM represents one of the largest accessibility networks in North America that is endorsing and promoting the services and events of partnering churches. We serve as a bridge of inclusion between the accessibility community and the church in order to fulfill our mutual responsibilities, mission and objectives to include people with disabilities within our whole community. The Scriptures commands us to **invite** (Luke 14), **integrate** (1 Cor 12) and to **identify** with people of all abilities. (Rom 15:1; 1 Cor 9:22).



Awareness & Advocacy

Educating the community and church on their shared responsibility of inclusion for people with disabilities

Abilities Outreaches

Enabling the church to successfully, proactively, strategically and regularly reach out to the disability community

Accessibility Sundays

Endorsing the annual accessibility worship services of partnering churches within the whole accessibility sector

Why & How?

Abilities Outreaches and Accessibility Sundays are modelled after Christ's 3 fold mandate, plan and priority of inclusion of people with disabilities in Luke 14:12-23

1. "Invite them" - A Strategic Priority

Vs. 13 "invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind"

2. "Bring them" - A Supportive Priority

Vs. 21 "bring in the poor, crippled, the blind and the lame"

3. "Compel them" - A strong Priority

Vs. 23 "compel them to come in, so my house will be full"



Individuals from the following organizations have participated at our events and worship services

Community Living Toronto, Salvation Amy, Mary Centre, Christian Horizons, Community Living York South, DramaWay, Pace Independent Living, Reena, Participation House, Surrey Place, Surrex, Community Living Pickering, Ajax and Whitby, Montage, Kerry's Place, Vita, L'Arche Toronto, Windreach Farms, Famous PEOPLE Players, Variety Village, Abilities Centre, Bob Rumball, CNIB, Bloorview Kids Rehab, Community Head Injury Resource Services of Toronto