Complete Streets: Access for All
Perceptions of Persons with Disabilities within Public Health

- Persons with disabilities are served by other agencies/organizations
- Disability ≠ Health
- Not regarded as a demographic group
- Who are we talking about?
Who are we talking about?

- Disability as defined by the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)
  - Limited in any way because of physical, mental, or emotional problems
  - Health conditions that require use of special equipment

24.3% of New Yorkers report having a disability
Prevalence of disability by age
2011 BRFSS

Prevalence of disability by age
2011 BRFSS
# Prevalence of Chronic Conditions and Risk Factors

## 2011 NYS BRFSS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chronic Conditions</th>
<th>Adults w/Disability</th>
<th>Adults w/o Disability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes</td>
<td>15.6%</td>
<td>7.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CVD</td>
<td>8.9%</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor Mental Health</td>
<td>22.9%</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk Factors</th>
<th>Adults w/Disability</th>
<th>Adults w/o Disability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Obesity</td>
<td>34.9%</td>
<td>21.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Smoker</td>
<td>27.7%</td>
<td>15.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meets PA Guidelines</td>
<td>16.5%</td>
<td>23.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What are we talking about when we say disability?

World Health Organization

*International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health*

- **Mainstreamed** disability as a universal human experience
- Defined disability as a *Contextual* variable
- Identified *environmental facilitators* and noted Universal Design as most promising framework
Other Definitions of Disability

- ADA
- NYS Human Rights Law
- Social Security

Why does it matter...
Promise of Complete Streets for Person with Disabilities

- People with disabilities reap the same benefits – potentially more!
- Planning needs to completed, at a minimum through the lens of disability, at best with persons with disabilities
  - Crosswalks and crossing cues
  - Curb cuts are not flush w/ adjoining surface, and lack of opposing curb cut
  - Parking meters out of reach
  - And more
Complete Streets
Complete Streets: Connect to Accessible Transportation
Lack of Access to Transportation
Complete Streets: Accessible for All
What is universal design?

Universal Design is the design of all products and environments to be usable by people of all ages and abilities, to the greatest extent possible without modification.

- Ronald L. Mace
Universal Design

Accessible vs. Universal

- Accessible Design: for people with disabilities
- Universal Design: for everyone, *including* people with disabilities

7 Principles of Universal Design

1. Equitable Use
2. Flexibility in Use
3. Simple and Intuitive Use
4. Perceptible Information
5. Tolerance for Error
6. Low Physical Effort
7. Size and Space for Approach and Use
Examples of Universal Design
Final recommendations

- Disability is a universal experience – in our lifetime we will experience a permanent or temporarily disability

- Planning must include bringing people with disabilities to the table

- Make the experience a positive one; use people first language, and ensure people with disabilities can fully participate by providing reasonable accommodations
Local Resources

- Your local independent living center at: www.acces.nysed.gov/vr/lsn/ilc/locations

- ARISE 315-472-3171 Syracuse, Oswego, Pulaski, Fulton, Madison County

- New York State Department of Health, Disability and Health Program, Theresa Paeglow at: tnp01@health.ny.gov

- Andrea Haenlin-Mott at: ah45@cornell.edu