

Resources for Creating and Building Partnerships between Provider Agencies and Religious Organizations/Congregations to Address Spiritual Supports for Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and their Families.

There are many, many resources from faith organizations. For a bibliography of some of them, go to The Boggs Center's website, and look at the product *Dimensions of Faith and Congregational Supports*. PDF online. Many are excellent, and adaptable across faith communities and religious perspectives.

<http://rwjms2.umdj.edu/boggscenter/products/index.htm> .

The following resources are ones that come from advocacy networks, service providers, University Centers, and magazines/journals that work in the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities.

1. Policy statement on Religious freedom from AAIDD and The ARC. Go to the national websites, www.aaidd.org or www.thearc.org. Also see "A Quality in Practice" Statement on Spirituality from The Council on Quality and Leadership. www.c-q-l.org
2. The Winter 2001/02 issue of the University of Minnesota's Center on Community Integration's newsletter, *Impact*, entirely focused on faith communities and people with developmental disabilities. It is broad snapshot of trends, resources, and ideas in this country, and an excellent 36-page resource. Your first copy is free, from 612-624-4512 or download it from their web site at <http://ici.umn.edu/products/newsletters.html>
3. Erik Carter's book from Brookes Publishing, in 2007, entitled *Including People with Disabilities in Faith Communities: A Guide for Families, Congregations and Service Providers*. It includes examples of spiritual assessments and individual planning.
4. *The Caregivers Responsibility*. A paper by Tom Hoeksema on appropriate policies for address spiritual and religious needs and interests in group home settings. Available at www.aaiddreligion.org.
5. The ARC newsletter, *Insight*, has had a "Spiritual Journeys" column since 2004. Archived issues of Insight are at The Arc website. Archived versions of the columns will also be Bill Gaventa's writings at The Boggs Center website, under faculty.
6. The newsletters of the Religion and Spirituality Division of the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disability and its activities. Individuals can join the Division through www.aaidd.org. Congregations can subscribe to the newsletter only for \$25 for three years through bill.gaventa@umdj.edu.
7. Gaventa, W., "Defining and Assessing Spirituality and Spiritual Supports: Moving from Benediction to Invocation." In Switzky, H. and Greenspan, S. (2006) *What is mental retardation? Ideas for an evolving disability in the 21st century*. AAIDD: Washington, D.C.
8. The *Journal of Religion, Disability, and Health*, formerly published by Haworth Press, now published by Taylor and Francis.
9. *Brain Injury: When the Call Comes. A Congregational Resource*. Booklet published by The Brain Injury Association of New Jersey in collaboration with The Elizabeth M. Boggs Center. Available in PDF on The Boggs Center website. Hard copies @\$5. <http://rwjms2.umdj.edu/boggscenter/products/index.htm>

AAIDD National Office

444 N. Capitol St. NW, Suite 846 Washington, DC 20001-1512
202-387-1068 800-424-3688

www.aaidd.org

10. ***Autism and Faith: A Journey into Community***. 52 pp. booklet with interfaith stories and strategies, published collaboratively by New Jersey COSAC (Center on Outreach Services to the Autism Community), The Elizabeth M. Boggs Center, and The Daniel Walker Jordan Foundation.
11. ***That All May Worship***, and three companion books, ***From Barriers to Bridges***, ***Loving Justice*** and ***Money and Ideas*** from the Religion and Disability Program, formerly at the National Organization on Disability, now at the American Association for Persons with Disabilities. www.aapd-dc.org.
12. A spiritual support series in *Exceptional Parent Magazine*, begun in 2008, with articles @ four times a year. Contact bill.gaventa@umdnj.edu , Consulting Editor or Jan Hollingsworth, at jhollingsworth@exceptionalparent.com.
13. ***Frontline***, the newsletter of the National Association for Direct Support Professionals, will have a focal issue on spirituality in the fall of 2008.
14. In the UK, a project called *A Space to Listen* created a number of products. Search for them at <http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk/our-work/community-and-inclusion/spirituality/>

Videos

Believing, Belonging, Becoming. A ten minute video produced by the Wisconsin Developmental Disabilities Council, with four vignettes of congregational inclusion (two involving children, two involving adults). Three vignettes are Christian, one Jewish. Excellent for educational sessions with congregations and providers. Copies available @\$10 each with check to “The Boggs Center” from The Boggs Center, New Jersey.

Bridges to Faith. A ten minute video about the “faith companions” of Bridges to Faith, a program funded by the Massachusetts Department of Mental Retardation which recruits congregational volunteers to accompany and welcome adults with intellectual disabilities in congregations of their choice. colleen.perkins@dmr.state.ma.us

Planning for Life, a 30 minute video outlining the ways that five direct support professionals and agencies support individuals in reaching their person centered dreams and goals, with one of the vignettes about supporting a non verbal adult to participate in his African American congregation. Available from Program Development Associates.

Help grow this list:

If you have suggestions or information about resources on spiritual and religious supports that come from provider organizations, advocacy groups, and disability centers, email Rev. Bill Gaventa at bill.gaventa@umdnj.edu.