

Help Raise Awareness

March is

Developmental Disabilities

Awareness Month

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For more information, visit www.disabilityawarenessnj.org

⇒ Displays:

Library or Bookstore:

Throughout the year, libraries and bookstores set up displays honoring and celebrating a variety of topics. Contact the manager and ask if they would be interested in setting up a display to honor Developmental Disability Awareness Month.

School:

Contact your child's school and ask if you can create a bulletin board in a hallway or classroom. Don't forget to use bright colors and lots of pictures to make it pop!

Local Municipal Building:

Municipal buildings are great places to create a display table or bulletin board. Even just hanging one poster can make a big impact in building community awareness. Who knows, maybe your mayor or freeholder will see it and ask for more information.

⇒ Write A Letter:

Community leaders such as local legislators, clergy people and business owners are important members of the community. The Arc of New Jersey Family Institute (www.thearcfamilyinstitute.org) developed a Developmental Disabilities Awareness Family Ambassador Kit which includes several awareness letters that you can download and personalize to send to your community leaders.



⇒ Social Media:

In celebration of Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month. we encourage everyone to use social media to educate others and spark discussion about people with developmental disabilities! The Arc of New Jersey's Self-Advocacy Project has created templets and other social media materials for the public to use. To download, visit www.disabilityawarenessnj.org.

⇒ Speakers:

Reach out to local developmental disabilities organizations (such as The Arc of New Jersey Family Institute) and inquire about booking a speaker. Ask your place of worship, workplace or other

affiliated organization if they would be interested in hosting a speaker. Don't forget about schools. There are many organizations in New Jersey that offer children-friendly presentations to help educate students about disabilities and bullying in a fun and respectful manner.