

Creating a Team



There are many different ways for inclusion ministries to get started. Choose the one that is right for your church and the families you serve. However, don't go it alone! As with most ministries, special needs are best addressed by a team. After all, we're the Body of Christ, and we need the gifts of everyone to be a complete community.

Here are some tips for creating your team:

- Identify “stakeholders” from all areas of your church: facilities, Children’s Ministry, leadership (elder board or pastor), parents of kids with special needs, parents of typically developing kids, medical/educational professionals from the church or community.
- Invite anyone who might be interested. Remember, this is a ministry of *inclusion*. Begin your ministry with a culture of acceptance and model that everyone who has a willing heart has gifts that can and should be used!
- Find another church with a similar ministry. There is no need to re-create the wheel! Invite the advice and counsel of other leaders, especially those who are connected in your community.

Remember that as you pull your team together, it is important to begin in prayer, and assess your church’s culture.