

# 7

## STRATEGIES FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

Use these individual and environmental strategies to help create social and political change that improves lives for people with disabilities, including those who are multiply oppressed due to disability and race, ethnicity, gender, religion, or immigration status.

### 1 Provide Information

Give people accessible and clear information they need to be informed about an issue, using a variety of means to communicate.

### 2 Build Skills

Provide means for people to learn and develop skills they need to build relationships, address problems, and create change. Value everyone's different knowledge, backgrounds, perspectives, and abilities.

### 3 Provide Support

Support personal development and self-advocacy to help folks better participate in community change-making activities, generally by enhancing their protection, reducing their risk, and by being flexible when people ask for what they need.

### 4 Reduce Barriers

Improve systems, processes, and services through universal design so more people can use them easily, without ableist or oppressive barriers or judgment.

### 5 Change Consequences

Use incentives or disincentives to create rewards and consequences for individuals and groups, to achieve clear goals that consider the needs of everyone who may be affected by the changes.

### 6 Change the Environment

Use Universal Design to remove barriers to physical, social, and programmatic access.

### 7 Change Policies

Change written documents such as by-laws, procedures, rules, and laws to support equity and inclusion, asking affected groups what should be changed—following a “Nothing About Us Without Us” philosophy. Policies and laws can be found in all levels of governments and organizations.



This poster is adapted from the “7 Strategies for Change” by the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA). Used with Permission.

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