



Masterpiece

Alliance Church Network

Equipping the Church to Become a Place of Belonging for ALL



www.masterpiecealliance.org



PO Box 2924, Salem, VA 24153



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Masterpiece Alliance's Vision and Mission

The Current Reality:

- Having a disability or having a child with a disability often leads to living isolated in society's margins. This reality of isolation also exists within the church, where families impacted by disability too often report not feeling a sense of belonging.

Our Vision - Our Preferred Reality:

- People with disabilities and their families find belonging and purpose in meaningful community.

Our Mission - Our Plan to Implement Our Vision:

- **MA Community:** An inclusive community for people of ALL abilities
- **MA Partnerships:** Support and equip the Roanoke Valley to proactively become an **“Epicenter of Belonging for ALL Abilities”** where all are supported, know they belong, find purpose, and have meaningful roles



What could an EPICENTER look like?

- Day support
- Respite care
- Event center
- Conferences
- Friendship homes
- Jobs and coaching
- Accessible recreation
- Business partnerships
- Retirement community
- Parent/Family Support
- Education and Training
- Community engagement
- Mixed living neighborhoods



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When we all win, we
all win.

MA will pour gas on
the others' fires.



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Active, engaged,
and intentional
Partner Churches
of Belonging



The Body Needs Everyone



The Body of Christ Needs Everyone

The Model of Jesus: Always Pursuing Those In Life's Margins

Then Jesus said to his host, “When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

Luke 14:12-14



the 5 stages

changing attitudes

A RESOURCE OF ELIM CHRISTIAN SERVICES

STAGE 1: IGNORANCE

Weaknesses and disabilities are a sign that God either does not care or is not able to fix the situation. In fact, they may be a result of sin or a lack of faith. God is not involved in the life of someone with a disability, because He can't use people who are so broken. I do not know people with disabilities, nor do I know anything about disabilities. I have no interest in getting to know them or to know more about their life.

STAGE 2: PITY

I feel sorry for people with disabilities. It's too bad, really. I am blessed by God and I can help others. I am grateful that my friends and family members are not disabled. People with weaknesses and disabilities obviously need someone like me to help them and give them meaning, due to their troubles. I really don't see any meaning or purpose to their lives.

STAGE 3: CARE

Like me, people with disabilities were created in God's image. By that virtue alone they have value. I hope that someone will take the time to show them God's love, and I will happily support such an effort. In fact, I think we need to find ways to help those people. Maybe we should do something to help, like with Special Olympics or with a nearby group home.

STAGE 4: FRIENDSHIP

I have come to know and spend time with a friend who has a disability. This person has value in God's sight, but also in mine, and I know that my life is better for having known this person, and as much as I have helped her, she has also blessed me. In fact, I now like to initiate relationships with people who have disabilities. God brings many different people into my life, including people with disabilities, and we all benefit as we grow in friendship with each other.

STAGE 5: CO-LABORERS

If God has called each of us to serve and praise Him with every fiber of our beings, then He has done the same for our brothers and sisters in Christ with disabilities. I think ministry should not just be to people with disabilities, but with or alongside people who have disabilities. Together, we will encourage and equip each other, with and without disabilities, into every good work to respond to God's call on our lives. We can all give and we can all receive.

Ephesians
2:10 Churches
of Belonging

AWARENESS

ACCESS

INCLUSION

BELONGING



VISIT THE WHEATON CENTER
FOR FAITH AND DISABILITY
FOR MORE INFORMATION
AND RESOURCES.



Elim

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DISABILITY CONCERNS CRC AND RCA, ENGAGING DISABILITY, JONI
AND FRIENDS, AND WHEATON COLLEGE



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