

2025 Starkloff Disability Employment Summit

Building Disability Confidence for Workforce Partners

Wednesday, October 23, 2025 | World Wide Technology Global Headquarters in St. Louis

Summit Speaker and Session Details

Note: Presenter names are linked to their LinkedIn profile if available.

Starkloff Disability Institute

[Lori Becker](#) | CEO | Starkloff Disability Institute

[Aimee Wehmeier](#) | CDO | Starkloff Disability Institute

[Katie Fields](#) | Interim Director of Programs | Starkloff Disability Institute

[Casey Gagliardi](#) | Disability Inclusion Consultant | Starkloff Disability Institute

Host Welcome

[Jessica Schoenfelder](#) | Cyber Security Consultant and ERG Leader | World Wide Technology

Opening Keynote

Inclusive by Design: Lessons from the New Disabled South

[Dom Kelly](#) | Co-Founder, President & CEO | New Disabled South

Dom Kelly's journey to founding New Disabled South is rooted in personal experience and a deep commitment to justice. In this session, he reflects on the lessons learned while building an organization where accessibility and inclusion are foundational, not optional.

Discover how centering lived experience can transform workplace culture and ripple outward to strengthen communities.

Closing Keynote

Lessons from The Harkin Institute:

Best Practices in Inclusive Employment and Universal Design in the Workplace

[Daniel Van Sant, J.D., M.S.Ed.](#) | Director of Disability Policy | The Harkin Institute, Drake University

Breakout Sessions (alphabetical by title)

Access Granted: Confidently Building a Disability-focused Employee Resource Group (ERG)

[Amanda Johnson](#) | Sr. HR Analyst, EEO | Emerson

[Maliah Kome](#) | QuickShip Manager | Emerson

Both panelists have led or currently lead a disability-focused employee resource group. They have grown a global group, launched chapters, aligned ERG strategy with DEI and business pillars, and undertaken a several yearslong endeavor to make real change within their organization as well as the broader community. This duo was/is fundamental in earning their business the Leader in Disability Inclusion award through their efforts to be a community partner and make an organizational impact.

Amanda and Maliah will share best practices and key takeaways to equip participants to begin or broaden their own ERG journey within their respective organizations. They will facilitate a discussion to empower participants to create or develop a disability focused ERG with firsthand insights on how they were able to grow a grassroots effort into a high performing business partnership that also happens to help advance a more equitable and accessible environment for people with disabilities.

Accommodations Best Practices: From Compliance to Inclusion

[Molly Clemens](#) | ADA Program Coordinator | Centene

[Meagan Thomas](#) | ADA Program Coordinator | Centene

[April Seifert](#) | Lead Business Analyst, IT Assistive Technologies | Centene

[Kevin Sweeney, M.Ed.](#) | Sr. Workplace Accommodations Partner | Centene

[Bradley Swenson](#) | Director of Business Operations | Centene

Join Centene Corporation, a national healthcare leader with a large and diverse workforce, as they share their journey toward creating a centralized, effective accommodations process that supports employees with disabilities across roles and locations. This session will explore how Centene's centralized model enhances consistency, transparency, and employee trust while reducing administrative burden for managers and HR teams.

Be An Influencer: Your Role in a Disability Inclusive Culture No Matter Your Title

[Meaghan Walls](#) | CEO | Center for Disability Inclusion

[Andy Traub](#) | Director of Corporate Disability Inclusion | Center for Disability Inclusion

To be an employer of choice for people with disabilities you must have a disability inclusive culture. This session will explore how you can build the foundation or elevate your efforts to influence change to reduce the stigma that many people who experience disability face in their employment journey. It will give attendees an understanding of the disability inclusion journey from the role of individual contributor to the enterprise. The session will also be a "safe place" to ask those tough questions and get direct feedback to help strengthen skills and perspectives.

This session will spotlight case studies to illustrate the ability to be a change agent to help overcome various internal barriers to companies becoming disability inclusive.

Does Your Intranet Include Disability Education and Resources? Taking an Important Step Toward Inclusion

[Marisa Hiatt](#) | Director of Disability and Experience | Mercy

[Cory Kirwan](#) | Manager – Patient Denials | Advocate for Equity and Inclusion | Mercy

This session will delve into the essential elements of a disability inclusion intranet page. We'll discuss the importance of knowing your audience to ensure the content is both relevant and accessible to all employees. Key topics will cover resources, effective interaction strategies, support contacts, educational materials, and best practices for promoting inclusivity. By addressing these components, your organization can develop a comprehensive resource hub that supports both internal staff and the wider community.

Lessons Learned: Embedding a Neurodiversity-at-Work Program at a Large National Professional Services Firm

[Dan Lawrence](#) | Chief of Staff – Government and Healthcare | KPMG LLP

[Sara Wylie](#) | Director of Account Based Marketing | KPMG LLP

This presentation will outline the journey of KPMG in the US ("KPMG") in setting up a national neurodiversity at work program in an organization with more than 40,000 people across 45 states. We will explain how we started, how we matured and how we structured the program around three key pillars of getting here, succeeding here, and leading here. We will cover how we ensured we embedded the philosophy of 'nothing about us without us', by providing a voice for neurodivergent colleagues and caregivers of neurodivergent people in every aspect of our work. We will explain how we built disability confidence in our people through sub-communities for neurodivergent staff and caregivers. And we will identify the challenges we experienced and how we overcame these. We will then have time for discussion and sharing experiences between participants.

Voices to be Seen and Heard: Driving Equity for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Talent

[Reba Ann Dell'Angelo, OTR/L](#) | Occupational Therapist

A dynamic workshop aimed at promoting inclusion, access and representation of Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals in workplace settings. Participants will explore the barriers D/HH talent face, from communication gaps to limited leadership pathways and learn actionable strategies to foster equity. The session will emphasize the importance of accessibility, cultural competence and authentic engagement in workplace. Attendees will leave with tools to be effective allies and advocates in driving systemic changes that centers D/HH voices.