

Change is in the Air: Segregation vs. Community

Which one are you practicing?



- In *segregated programs* people are known by what is perceived to be wrong: by their medical condition or disability label
- **In *community* people are known by name**
- In *segregated programs* people are incomplete, broken and need to be changed or "fixed"
- **In *community* people are as they are, with opportunities to follow their own dreams**
- In *segregated programs* relationships are unequal; people do things "for" others and do not look for any contribution in return
- **In *community* relationships are reciprocal, give and take; and the diverse gifts of many people are recognized**
- In *segregated programs* people are separated into groups and often placed with "their own kind"
- **In *community* people are accepted for who they are, and are viewed as part of a diverse society**
- In *segregated programs* problems are solved by consulting authorities, policies and procedures
- **In *community* people seek answers from their own experiences and the wisdom of others**
- In *segregated programs* there is no room to acknowledge mistakes and uncertainty; information is communicated in professional jargon that distances individuals from their actions
- **In *community* people can make honest efforts and acknowledge honest mistakes and fears**
- In *segregated programs* all problems have a rational solution
- **In *community* there is room for confusion, and mystery, and recognition that some things are beyond human control**
- In *segregated programs* people are called special needs, clients, consumers or part of a caseload
- **In *community* people are called children, family, friend, co-worker, or neighbor**