**Literacy and Community-Building for Adults with Intellectual Disabilities**

**Learner Guide**

<https://www.webjunction.org/events/webjunction/next-chapter-book-club-webinar.html>

**Event Description:** You will learn how [Next Chapter Book Club](https://www.nextchapterbookclub.org/) (NCBC) helps libraries build community and promote literacy while supporting the educational and social growth of adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. NCBC emphasizes inclusion and the joy of reading aloud with friends and is flexible enough to be adapted to the needs and budget of nearly any library. With more than 300 chapters, NCBC is the largest community book club of its kind in the world. Find out how your library can reach out to connect with an underserved population, promoting community inclusion, independence, and productivity for individuals with intellectual disabilities and their families.

Presented by: **Tom Fish**, PhD, Founder and President, Next Chapter Book Club; **Pam Brooks**, Department Head, Adult and Teen Services, Scotch Plains Public Library (NJ); and **Maggie Allbee**, Adult Services Supervisor, Henrico County Public Library (VA)

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| **What are your goals for viewing this webinar?** | |  |
| **Personal Goals** |  |  |
| **Team Goals** |  |  |
| **Benefits of Book Clubs for Patrons with Developmental Disabilities** | |  |
| As you consider providing a book club, help make the case by exploring the benefits to both patrons and community. What can you add to get staff or leadership buy-in?  **Benefits to book club members**   * Meaningful and regular engagement in the community * Authentic opportunities to practice emerging literacy and social skills   **Benefits to communities**   * Increased exposure to and awareness of people with disabilities (opportunities for attitude change) * Enhanced diversity within community | |  |
| **Assessing Community Needs** | |  |
| As you consider using the Next Chapter Book Club (NCBC) as a way to reach community members with intellectual disabilities, assess what you already know about community needs.  Are there **families** you know of who could benefit from this opportunity? How could you connect with them to understand ways to meet their needs?  Are there **local agencies** you can connect with to understand how this community is being served with programs? Could you partner with these agencies to start a NCBC? | |  |
| **On Becoming a NCBC Affiliate** | |  |
| Here are some things to consider before deciding to become a NCBC Affiliate.  A successful, sustainable Next Chapter Book Club requires these things. Identify those aspects you need to explore further.   * A **public place** to meet on a weekly or bi-weekly basis (i.e. library, coffee shop, bookstore) * **Club members** (a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 8 per club) * Club meeting **Facilitators** (two volunteers per club who are willing to commit one hour per week) * **Books** (generally four sets per year, per club) * **Training** in club meeting facilitation strategies for engaging readers of all levels with intellectual and developmental disabilities * A **Program Coordinator** who ensures that each club has a place to meet, members to attend, trained volunteers to facilitate, and books to read. This role requires approximately one hour per week (once the club is up and running) and can be filled by a volunteer or a paid staff person from the Affiliate organization. | |  |
| **Books and Book Selection** | |  |
| Providing resources for community members with intellectual disabilities and their families is a great way to start, with or without a book club. Explore these booklists for ideas.   * Next Chapter Book Club shared this list of books recommended by families in their book clubs. <http://www.webjunction.org/content/dam/WebJunction/Documents/webJunction/2018-09/ncbc-member-book-recommendations.xlsx> * Scotch Plains Public Library NCBC List, shared this ballot in selecting books with book club families. <http://www.webjunction.org/content/dam/WebJunction/Documents/webJunction/2018-09/scotch-plains-book-list.docx> * Jeremy’s List, compiled by book club member at Scotch Plains Public Library <http://www.webjunction.org/content/dam/WebJunction/Documents/webJunction/2018-09/jeremys-book-list.pdf> | |
| **Action Plan (include next steps, who, when, etc.)** | |
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