

Use People First Language... (DO'S)	...Instead of Labels that Stereotype and Devalue (DON'TS)
people/individuals with disabilities an adult who has a disability a child with a disability a person	the handicapped the disabled
people/individuals without disabilities typical kids	normal people/healthy individuals atypical kids
people with intellectual and developmental disabilities he/she has a cognitive impairment a person who has Down syndrome	the mentally retarded; retarded people he/she is retarded; the retarded he/she's a Downs kid
a person who has autism	autistic
people with a mental illness a person who has an emotional disability a person with a psychiatric illness/disability	the mentally ill; the emotionally disturbed he/she is insane; crazy; demented; psycho; a maniac; a lunatic
a person who has a learning disability	he/she is learning disabled
a person who is deaf he/she has a hearing impairment/loss a man/woman who is hard of hearing	the deaf
a person who is deaf and cannot speak a person who has a speech disorder he/she uses a communication device he/she uses synthetic speech	he/she is deaf and dumb a mute
a person who is blind a person who has a visual impairment a man/woman who has low vision	the blind
a person who has epilepsy people with a seizure disorder	an epileptic a victim of epilepsy
a person who uses a wheelchair people who have a mobility impairment a person who walks with crutches	he/she is wheelchair bound he/she is confined to a wheelchair a cripple
a person who has quadriplegia people with paraplegia	a quadriplegic; a quad a paraplegic
he/she is of small or short stature a person with dwarfism	a dwarf a midget
he/she has a congenital disability	he/she has a birth defect
accessible buses, bathrooms, etc reserved parking for people with disabilities	handicapped buses, bathrooms, etc handicapped parking