



TULANE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT of PSYCHIATRY
& BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

Psychiatry & EDI

EDI Newsletter | March 2023

ACCE Spotlight: Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

The Psychiatry Department's Advocacy, Consumerism, and Community Engagement (ACCE) Action Group is highlighting Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month in March!

March is **Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month**, proclaimed by President Reagan in 1987. This is a time to reflect on the inclusion of people with developmental disabilities in all facets of community life. Inclusion means people feel a sense of belonging and value whether with their family, peers, school, workplace, or larger community. According to the CDC, developmental disabilities are defined as impairments in physical, learning, language or behavior areas, and include autism spectrum disorders, cerebral palsy, ADHD, learning or intellectual disabilities, hearing loss, vision impairment, and other developmental delays. It is important to recognize the barriers that people with developmental disabilities still sometimes face in connecting with their communities.

A local parent educator wrote about the significance of teaching children to be more inclusive and provided specific tips for parents [in this article](#). The author suggested parents (and perhaps other humans in this exercise) start by asking themselves a few questions:

1. Does my child play with children that look or act like them the majority of the time? (An extension of this question is "Do I spend time with others who look or act like me the majority of the time?")
2. Do I use derogatory labels about other children (or people), even subtle language such as crazy or bad?
3. Do I stare at a child (or person) who looks or behaves differently?

The National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD) compiles a resource guide yearly, including social media recommendations and messaging advice, and podcast recommendations. They also highlight artwork created by people with disabilities, which can be found [here](#).

LOCAL ORGANIZATION SPOTLIGHT



Founded in 1935, [Magnolia Community Services](#) is a private 501(c) (3) non-profit organization providing support to adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. They offer support and services in more than twenty residential group homes, supported community living, vocational/day habilitation, supported employment, recreational, and wellness programs.



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Other Local Organizations To Support:

- [Dragonfly Cafe](#)
- [Raphael Village](#)



THE NEW ORLEANS BOOK FESTIVAL'S NEW CHAPTER

The New Orleans Book Festival at Tulane returns to Tulane's uptown campus, March 9-11, 2023, with a three-day, in-person literary celebration featuring more than 100 national, regional and local authors, including some of the nation's favorite bestsellers. The festival is free and open to the public. This major literary event for the Crescent City will feature panel discussions, moderated conversations, keynote lectures, book fairs, family programming and workshops. Each day includes at least one major plenary session, which features a leading author. The event provides a forum for media outlets, authors and readers to network and collaborate in one of the world's most vibrant and culturally diverse cities. The full schedule and list of authors can be [found here](#).



ACCOUNTABILITY TIP!



Inclusive Language In Action

Helps to create a psychologically safe and welcoming environment.

- Use person-first language when appropriate
- Acknowledge humanity of others by choosing labels sensitively
- Use words that are affirming and respectful of others
- Stay current – terminology is constantly evolving
- Own up to mistakes and learn from them
- Practice, practice, practice



Did you know that all past departmental EDI newsletters have been added online? You can check out previous issues, as well as see past Book and Film Club picks, by [clicking this link](#).



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MAR

14

JEDI CATS Office Hours

March 14 & 28, 2023; 5:00 p.m.

JEDI CATS hold open office hours for an hour. Feel free to join using [this link](#).

MAR

24

2023 Anti-Racism and EDI Teach-In

March 24, 2023; 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

The teach-in will open with an Indigenous panel featuring Lora Ann Chaisson (Principal Chief, United Houma Nation) and colleagues for the Bulbancha morning keynote. Heather McGhee, author of *The Sum of Us*, will be the national afternoon keynote. Interactive sessions with Tulane and community partners exploring environmental racism and anti-racism leadership follow each keynote, and faculty and staff affinity group gatherings end the day. [Register here](#).

APR

03

Film Club

April 3, 2023; 7:00 p.m.

Film Club discusses "Crip Camp."

APR

20

Book Club

April 20, 2023; 7:00 p.m.

Book Club discusses "So You Want To Talk About Race."

WANT TO GET INVOLVED AT TULANE?

Are you interested in joining a group of committed individuals working to advance our departmental EDI initiatives? Our **Diversity Committee** and **JEDI CATS** are recruiting new members. Learn more about our various initiatives [here](#) or reach out to Angela Keyes (akeyes@tulane.edu) for more information.

Equity Thursdays is a weekly conversation and lunch series hosted by the Center for Academic Equity (provided free of charge)! They offer workshops, presentations, and discussions led by members of the Tulane community and guests from the GNO. Join them as they connect to distinctive academic opportunities and provide a forum for reflection on the intersection of identity and the academic experience. They welcome students, faculty, and staff to come to Equity Thursdays and join the CAE community!

Equity Thursdays are held on the uptown campus in the Richardson Building, Room 115, every Thursday from 12:30 to 1:30 PM CST.

The EDI Professional Development Program (EDI-PDP) has announced a number of electives for the Spring semester, including topics such as supporting LGBTQ+ staff, students and faculty; disability rights; supporting veterans at Tulane; and intercultural competency. A full list of offerings can be found on [the EDI webpage](#).

Consider joining one of the [Tulane Faculty & Staff Affinity Groups](#) as a space to connect and thrive together. All are welcome!



We hope you'll join us for our club meetings, and for all our exciting events!

Angela

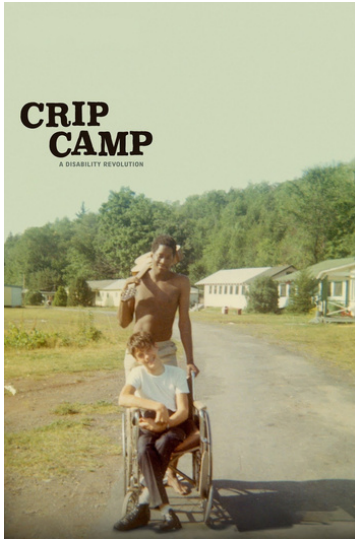
Angela W. Keyes, PhD
Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Officer
Associate Professor of Psychiatry
Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
Tulane University School of Medicine



Film Club

Date and Time: April 3, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Link: [Please click here](#) to join our Zoom meeting.



Film Club will watch "**Crip Camp**," a documentary directed by James LeBrecht and Nicole Newnham and produced by Barack and Michelle Obama's Higher Ground Production and company. "Crip Camp" uses archival footage and chronicles the experiences of participants at a summer camp in the Catskill Mountains in New York State in 1971 for adolescents with a variety of health conditions that were categorized as disabilities. The film is viewed as an integral part of American civil rights history that had been greatly underemphasized, especially in the 1970's at a time when President Carter was considering signing the Rehabilitation Act.

The film portrays the adolescents playing games, music, and having candid discussions about navigating in a society that did not provide many opportunities for inclusiveness. The disability rights movement in the '70s was driven by several camp participants, who formed the Center for Independent Living. Movie critic Phil Guie concludes that "Crip Camp is an upbeat look back at a history that is arguably still being written today."

"Crip Camp" is available for streaming through Netflix.

Book Club

Date and Time: April 20, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Link: [Please click here](#) to join our Zoom meeting.

Book Club will read "**So You Want to Talk About Race**" by Ijeoma Oluo.

Protests against racial injustice and white supremacy have galvanized millions around the world. The stakes for transformative conversations about race could not be higher. Still, the task ahead seems daunting, and it's hard to know where to start. How do you tell your boss her jokes are racist? Why did your sister-in-law hang up on you when you had questions about police reform? How do you explain white privilege to your white, privileged friend? The author guides readers of all races through subjects ranging from police brutality and cultural appropriation to the model minority myth in an attempt to make the seemingly impossible possible: honest conversations about race, and about how racism infects every aspect of American life and offers practical advice for engaging in racial dialogue.

This New York Times bestseller was published in January 2018 and assesses how different systems within society have contributed to racism and systems of oppression. Oluo tackles difficult topics that often arise when discussing race, including how to discuss white privilege, addressing racist remarks made by people you know, intersectionality and affirmative action.



Current and active members of ACCE include Kankshi Thakur, Kristen Pearson, Maegen Vincent, Sherry Heller, Amy Mikolajewski, and Hien Le Sanchez. Please email Kankshi Thakur (athakur@tulane.edu) if you are interested in joining!



2023 MARCH

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|-----|-----|---|-----|--|---|----------------------------|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 Tulane Book Festival <hr/> Equity Thursday 12:30 p.m. | 10 Tulane Book Festival | 11 Tulane Book Festival |
| 12 | 13 | 14 JEDI CATS Office hours 5:00 p.m. | 15 | 16 Equity Thursday 12:30 p.m. | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 Equity Thursday 12:30 p.m. | 24 Anti-Racism Teach-In 8:30 a.m. | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 JEDI CATS Office hours 5:00 p.m. | 29 | 30 Equity Thursday 12:30 p.m. | 31 | |