

ADA and Access to Bellevue Parks

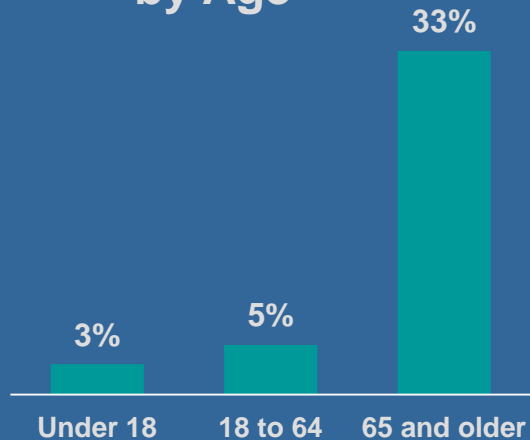
**Ensuring recreation
for people living with disabilities**

**Parks & Community Services Board
April 12, 2016**



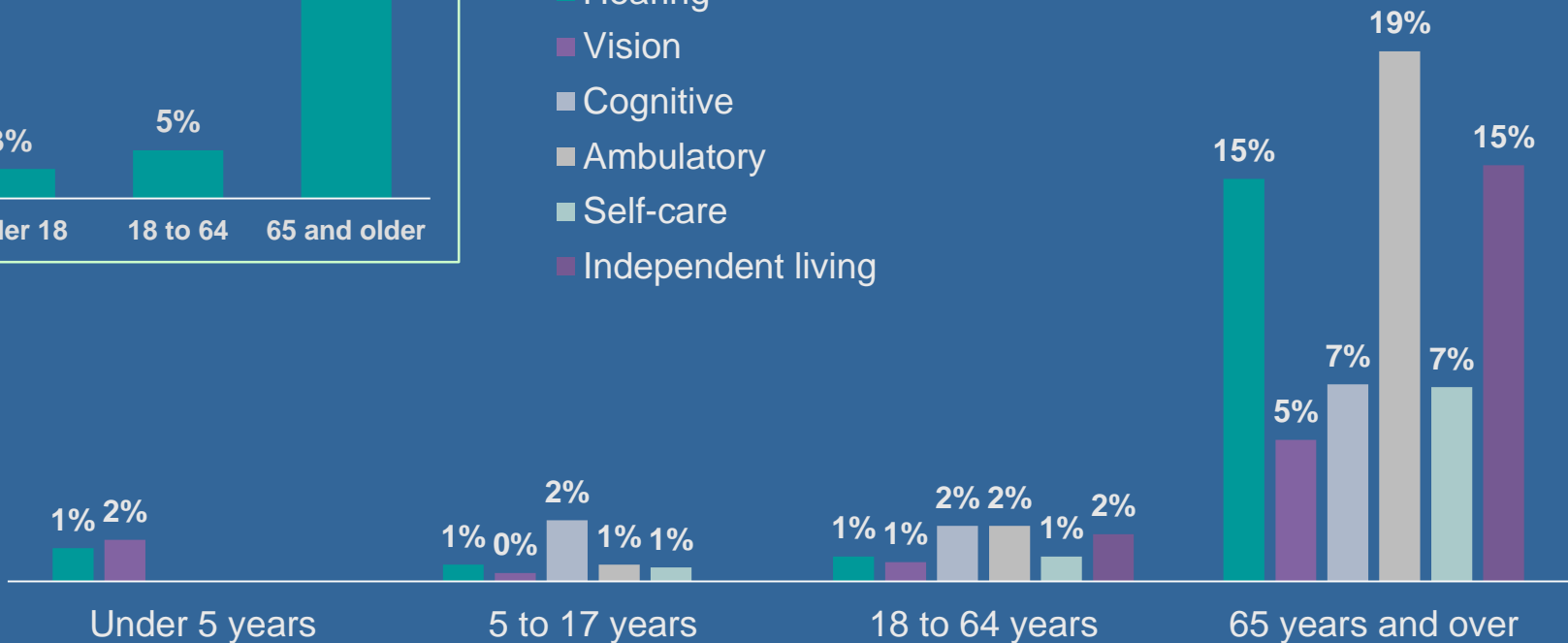
Disability Demographics

Disability Status by Age

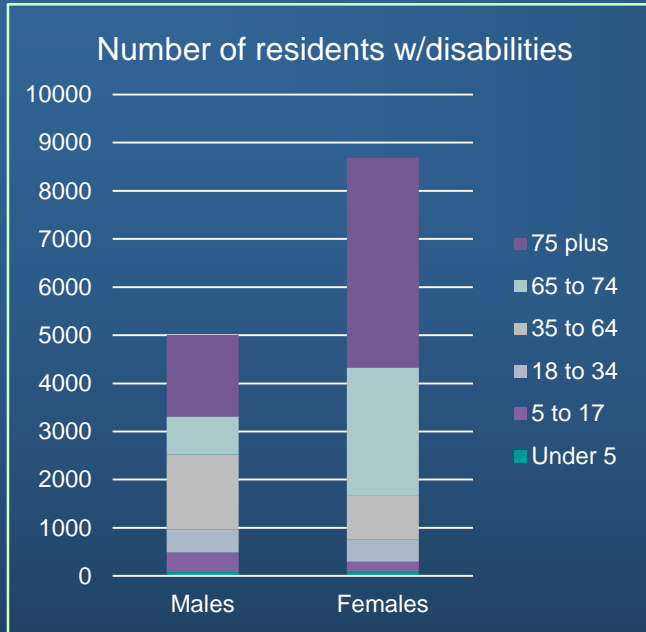


Disability Type by Age

- Hearing
- Vision
- Cognitive
- Ambulatory
- Self-care
- Independent living

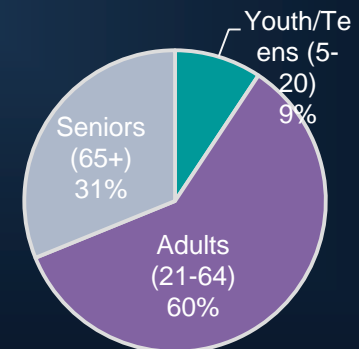


Bellevue Residents with Disabilities



15% of residents over 5 have disabilities: 15,487 people

Youth/Teens (5-20)	1,445
Adults (21-64)	9,218
Seniors (65+)	4,824



History

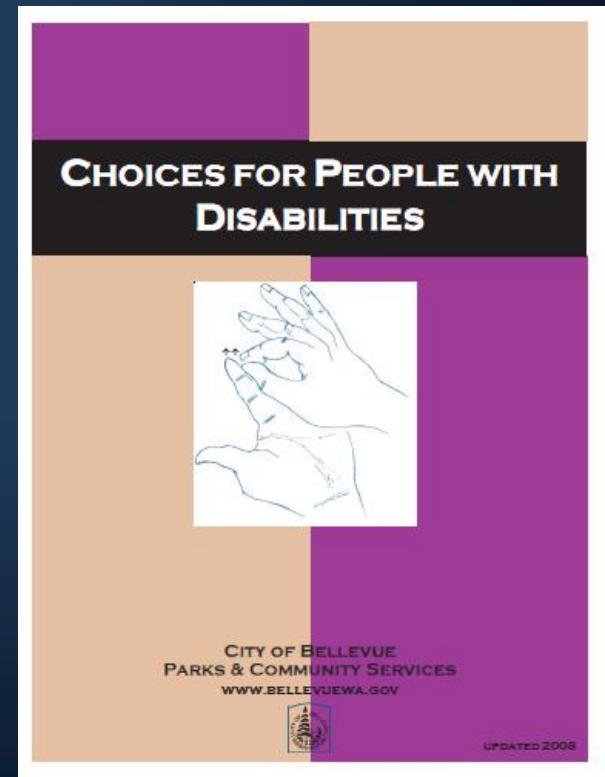
- 1970's City of Bellevue began providing adaptive recreation activities for individuals with disabilities
- 1980's Highland Community Center
- 1990's Adaptive programs at Highland and other City facilities
- 2000 Inclusion services in addition to adaptive programs

Progress

- 2006 Choices Plan developed, goals met
- 2008 Choices Plan updated, new goals
- 2015 Diversity Advantage Plan
- 2015 ADA Coordinator hired
- 2016 Choices Plan update in progress

Recreation for People with Disabilities Choices Plan

- ◆ Inclusion in general recreation, with or without accommodations
- ◆ Adaptive recreation as an additional choice for those who benefit
- ◆ Community expressed need for adaptive recreation



Who is the plan for?

- ◆ Individuals with disabilities
- ◆ Parents/guardians of relatives with disabilities
- ◆ Community recreation providers
- ◆ Recreation professionals
- ◆ Elected officials, Boards and Commissions



How was the plan developed?

◆ Information Gathering

- User groups
- Service providers
- Best practices - plans of other organizations
- Legal requirements (specifically ADA requirements)

Adaptive Recreation

- ◆ Builds skills needed to transition to an inclusive program
- ◆ Allows an individual to participate in an activity with others of similar ability
- ◆ Provides an introductory choice for learning new recreation activities

Adaptive Recreation

Social Clubs
Sports
Cooking
Drama
Art
Glass Fusion
Pottery
Dance
Special Events
Swimming
Tennis



Adaptive Recreation Participation 2016 Programs

COB adaptive Recreation sites:

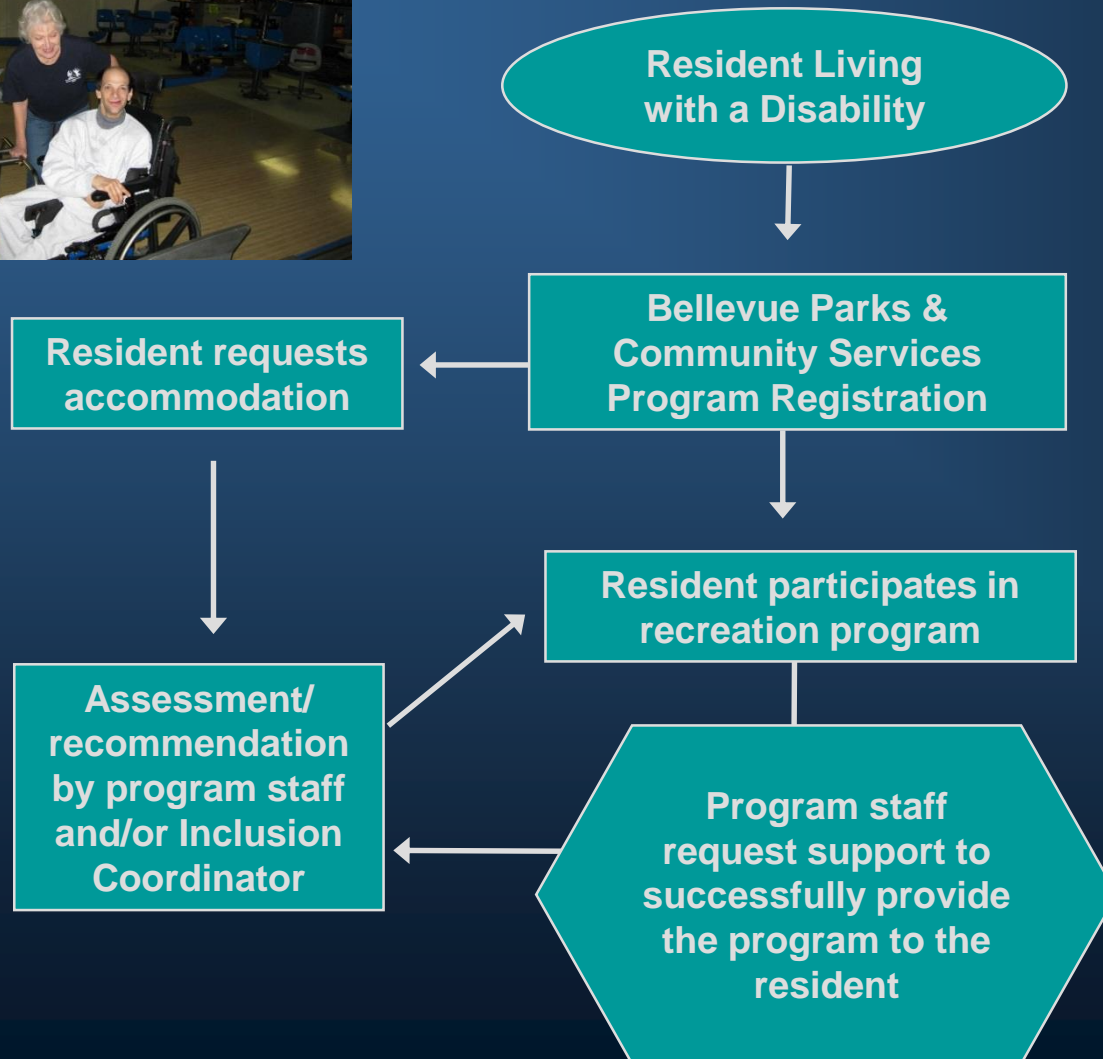
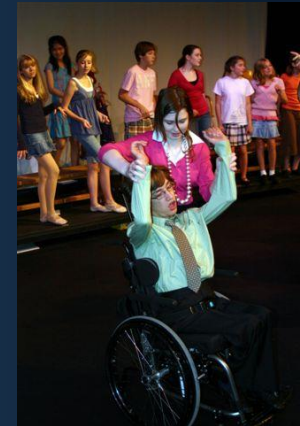
- ◆ Highland Community Center
- ◆ Northwest Arts Center
- ◆ Tennis Center
- ◆ Aquatic Center



Inclusion

- ◆ Provides the greatest choice of recreation activities and experiences
- ◆ Supports full and active participation of individuals with disabilities in the same community activities as individuals without disabilities
- ◆ Develops community support and encourages attitudinal changes to reflect the right of all people to dignity, self respect, and community involvement

Inclusion Process for City of Bellevue Registered Programs



Example ACCOMMODATIONS

Parent Education
Integration Partner
Instructor/Staff Training
Program Modifications
Communication
Equipment Adaptations
Mobility Assistance
Modeling
Medication Assistance
Supervision

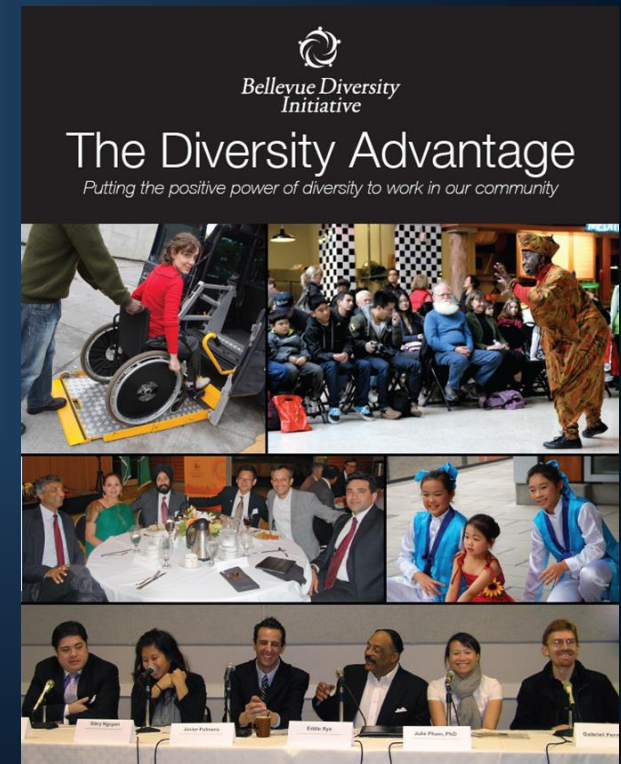
Partners to Provide Service

- ◆ Bellevue School District
- ◆ Special Care Agency
- ◆ Kiwanis
- ◆ Special Needs PTA

ADA and Diversity

Diversity Advantage Initiative

- ◆ Equity, access, inclusion and opportunity for all
- ◆ ADA compliance
- ◆ Title VI of Civil Rights Act
- ◆ Cultural competence
- ◆ Outreach & engagement



ADA Self-Evaluation & Transition Plan

- ◆ Draft complete: stakeholder review
- ◆ Council approval in mid-2016
- ◆ Evaluation of all city programs and facilities:
 - Requirements and self-evaluation
 - ID areas for further evaluation
 - Recommendations



ADA Transition Plan

- ◆ City Facilities (mostly Parks):
 - 16 detailed ADA assessment reports
 - Integrating ADA with CIP plans for Parks, Fire, Civic Services
 - Community input to prioritize access improvements
- ◆ Pedestrian Facilities:
 - Curb ramp and sidewalk data update
 - Accessible pedestrian signals
 - Better coordination with transit, most-used city facilities (parks, community centers, City Hall)



Access to Bellevue Parks



- ◆ Facility renovations for ADA compliance
- ◆ Community requests: nature trails, playgrounds, sport courts
- ◆ Access to all programs and services
- ◆ Provide accommodations or modifications as needed: golf carts, water chairs

ADA & Program Access



- ◆ Hearing loops installed in City Hall and Bellevue Youth Theatre
- ◆ Captioning, ASL, Braille, large print
- ◆ Staff training
- ◆ City website redesign:
 - Improve accessibility
 - Multi-language web pages
- ◆ Community input:
 - Events, program priorities
 - Emergency planning



Questions?

