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Your Commission

Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities

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After question three, which questions from the flowchart are you prepared to answer?

What are the impacts, and gaps?

Root Cause Analysis

Story: What did you hear from the community?

There are limited recreational opportunities or inclusive programs for people with disabilities, particularly those with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Problem: What is the problem you identify?

Many recreational centers do not provide equitable access to programming for people with intellectual disabilities. Recently, the City expanded programming at the Dottie Jordan Recreational Center to include some recreational programming for adults with disabilities. However, this still leaves McBeth Recreational Center - a segregated facility in south-central-west Austin - as the only option available to some families for childcare and day habilitation for children with disabilities and the primary facility for adults with disabilities. McBeth has limited capacity to serve Austin's high programming demands. For example, adults with intellectual disabilities currently have to wait three to five years for a spot in the day habilitation program.

How does the problem show up in your community? Who is most impacted by the problem?

People with intellectual and developmental disabilities are the most impacted back a lack of inclusive opportunities. This impacts Health and Environment (including accessibility to quality parks, trails, and recreational opportunities); Government That Works for All (including equity of City programs and resource allocation); and Culture & Lifelong Learning (including appreciation, respect, and welcoming of all people and cultures).

Considering all of the information you have or have not collected above, how do we solve for this problem?

Increase the number of slots available for children with intellectual disabilities in seasonal camps and after-school programs, and for adults with intellectual disabilities in recreational programs, including day habilitation at McBeth and Dottie Jordan and other city recreational centers. Expand access across all of Austin to ensure residents can participate in valuable programs, no matter their zip code.
