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Disability-Led Movement Gets Real About Disability

Yes! Access Launches to Transform Disability Narratives

UNITED STATES, June 24, 2025 — In response to rising threats to disability rights, healthcare access, employment, and educational accommodations, a bold new initiative has been launched: **Yes! Access**—a national disability-led campaign to connect, empower, and celebrate the disability community.

Focusing on the experiences of people with disabilities, the movement will spark cultural change, deepen public understanding, and celebrate the shared values at the heart of access. Yes! Access brings together the nearly 61 million Americans with disabilities, their families, support providers, and allies to build the connections that affirm dignity, independence, and opportunity for all and to support collective action.

"Yes! Access is shifting narratives and telling the true story of disability. Americans with disabilities are family members, co-workers, neighbors, and friends. Americans stand to lose their dignity, independence, and access to the community with the cuts to Medicaid," said Meg O'Connell, a Co-Founder of the organization. "We're not just pushing back on rollbacks — we're pushing forward toward a future where access isn't an afterthought, it's as natural as disability itself."

Built by and for the disability community, Yes! Access highlights stories that reflect the richness of disabled lives and challenges outdated perceptions that limit opportunity.

"Disability is not something to fix, it's something to understand," said Tara Cunningham, Co-Founder of Yes! Access. "We know collective action works. Yes! Access is about making space for all kinds of minds, bodies, and ways of being in the world. True equity begins with understanding and connection."

"We have seen that when we speak up and speak out, change happens," Tara continued. "Yes! Access empowers grassroots efforts and collective action because people with disabilities will not be silenced, erased, or ignored. Speaking up, being seen, and telling the real story of disability is a revolutionary thing!"

The campaign is rolling out with a series of personal videos, educational tools, and resources to support efforts to transform the way disability is understood.

Visit **yesaccess.org** to explore the campaign, access free tools, partner, donate, or share your story. Follow **@YesAccess** to be part of a movement that's rewriting the story of disability with pride, power, and possibility.