

Leading Inclusion for Congregational Leaders: Study Guide

1. Why is inclusion of people with disabilities an important function of your role as a congregational leader?

2. Discuss the model of inclusion on the slide “exclusion, segregation, integration and inclusion.” At this moment where do you see your congregation in this model? List some of the actions you can take to move to the next level. How do you plan to communicate this to your congregation?

3. People want to belong and they want to flourish. In order to empower them, we must consider the congregational attitudes that persist that serve as barriers. How are people with disabilities perceived in your congregation? Are they involved in the practice of Tikkun Olam or are they recipients of Chesed? What do you think needs to happen to change attitudes?

4. Resistance is feedback. What sort of resistance might you encounter as you challenge the existing attitudes and assumptions? What are some steps you can take to address that resistance?

5. Identify resources on the www.disabilitiesinclusion.org website that you can share with other leaders in your congregation. How will you share and discuss those with others?