# Food and Drink

Congregational Worksheet on Accessibility

for greater inclusion for Disabled UU’s

Full participation in all aspects of congregational life for people with disabilities is the aspiration for UU congregations. This is a big undertaking and one that is ongoing. **Accessibility is only one part of this, but it is essential. Here, we cover one of the many areas within congregational accessibility.** As new technologies emerge, this list will change. Additionally, the brief accessibility checklist is not complete or specific to you. This checklist is meant to start the conversation. Your building, grounds, or policies are unique to your congregation. We encourage everyone to participate, either through a survey created for your congregation, or helping with or giving input, on accessibility projects.

Each worksheet has four sections and should be revisited for updates.

1. Links to EDUCATIONAL RESOURCESwith detailed information.
2. CHECKLIST:
	1. Check **Yes or No** as it applies at this moment even if you have plans to add this accessibility in the future.
	2. Mark **NA** if it does not nor ever will apply. For example, an elevator would never be installed in a single-story building with no basement.
	3. In the **Action** column, note what needs to happen next. Does another committee need to be involved? If so, what committee? Would this item be best handled by someone on the staff? Use the **Notes** for additional space.
3. SOME THINGS TO CONSIDER poses questions to start conversations on dismantling ableism in your congregation.
4. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES are articles, blog posts, activities, and other information that is current and will be revised every three months.

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| Educational Links:Food Service: Accommodating Diners with Disabilities <https://adata.org/factsheet/food-service>Drinking Fountains <https://www.access-board.gov/files/ada/guides/drinking-fountains.pdf>Food Allergies: Food Intolerance Information <https://www.disabled-world.com/health/intolerance-allergies/> |
| Checklist | Yes | No | N/A | Action |
| 1. Is each water fountain cane-detectable and are controls mounted on the front or on the side near the front edge, and operable with one closed fist?
 |[ ] [ ] [ ]   |
| 1. Is the kitchen accessible for a wheelchair or mobility scooter user?
 |[ ] [ ] [ ]   |
| 1. During coffee hour, are self-service areas for beverages and food as well as the tables accessible?
 |[ ] [ ] [ ]   |
| 1. For community meals, are buffet tables at an accessible height?
 |[ ] [ ] [ ]   |
| 1. Is there enough room for a wheelchair to maneuver between rows of tables?
 |[ ] [ ] [ ]   |
| 1. Is the area for returning soiled dishes at an accessible height?
 |[ ] [ ] [ ]   |
| 1. Are the foods being served at potlucks labeled with their ingredients so that people with allergies or restricted diets can see whether they can partake in a dish?
 |[ ] [ ] [ ]   |
| Notes: |
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Some things to consider:What would a social get-together without food be like? Have you ever gone to a social gathering, and they had completely run out of food? Have you ever worried about something like that happening? Read [*When You’re Allergic To Almost Every Food*](https://health.usnews.com/health-news/patient-advice/articles/2016-03-09/when-youre-allergic-to-almost-every-food). Have you ever skipped a gathering because you didn’t feel welcome; didn’t want to ask for help AGAIN? Asking for help and being a Disability Ally can be great skills to have. Sometimes good intentions can go too far. Read [*3 Ways Disability Allyship Can Go Off Track*](https://www.forbes.com/sites/andrewpulrang/2021/04/14/3-ways-disability-allyship-can-go-off-track/?sh=2247d9b27a81)*.*

## Additional Resources:

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Regulations Guide <https://www.gofoodservice.com/guides/americans-with-disabilities-act-ada-regulations-guide>

Access Suggestions for Public Events <https://www.sinsinvalid.org/blog/access-suggestions-for-a-public-event>

Dear Restaurant, Your Inaccessibility Is The Opposite Of Hospitality <https://www.eater.com/2019/1/16/18184376/restaurants-disabled-accessibility-americans-with-disabilities-act>

A Guide For Making Temporary Events Accessible

<https://adata.org/guide/planning-guide-making-temporary-events-accessible-people-disabilities>

We welcome your feedback and additions to this form: aim@uua.org