



The ABLE Network - Planning and Starting - Part 1

Transcript

Barb Allan: So when Joan and I decided to start the ABLE Network, we did a lot of research. We went and looked at other programs out there for intellectually disabled people, and we chose to have a very community-based program versus a centre-based program. We wanted our participants to continue with the programs they had had at school, where they were integrated into work co-op and were integrated into phys-ed classes. We wanted to keep that going.

So, we started by putting together a board. And initially it was three parents: Joan, myself and another parent. And we got together an advisory board of people who had knowledge in these areas. We had educators, we had business people who had businesses in the community, and we tried to put together how our program would look. We opened in September of 2008 with five participants. At that point we also got charitable status, we set up a website, we had a brochure printed, and got started. It took a lot of planning but it worked out quite well.

(More information: <http://www.theablenetwork.ca/>)

