

DIFFERENT IN ABILITY, NOT CAPABILITY

Persons with Down syndrome possess their own unique talents, artistry and abilities. Just as everyone else, they deserve the right to educational and vocational opportunities, the opportunity to develop their talents and skills, full participation in the workforce and the opportunity to contribute to society.

We reached out to the Founder of the Down Syndrome Network, Glen Niles, to find out how we, as a society, can understand the experience of this community and be more inclusive.

Glen said that discrimination against persons with Down syndrome often occurs. Parents are still being turned away from schools and persons are refused jobs are just a few examples. Glen said that just like any one else, persons with Down syndrome can live on their own,

have a family, pursue a career and contribute to society. "Everyone has different strengths so not every person with a disability needs to attend a special school, some of them can actually be included in the regular school system, or in the workplace."

In 2015, the EOC held a Human Rights and Disability Workshop on the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons

with Disabilities. It served as an opportunity to hear from different stakeholders especially from organisations and individuals representing persons with disabilities.

The EOC encourages persons to lodge a complaint if they have been discriminated against based on their disability, sex, religion, marital status, origin (including geographic origin), race or ethnicity.



EOC TRAINS PSCU HR

The EOC hosted its first virtual session for the year. The enthusiastic recipients were the Human Resource team at PSCU Credit Union Co-operative Society Limited.

EOC representatives presented on the topics of 'Discrimination in Employment', 'Accommodating Persons with Disabilities' and 'Sexual Harassment in the Workplace' via Zoom.

The HR team is now better equipped to handle situations that may arise with employees

and members as it relates to sexual harassment and discrimination in the workplace.

Since the pandemic, the Equal Opportunity Commission (EOC) has transformed its informative yet engaging public education workshops into virtual training sessions. These virtual sessions are free of charge to members of the private and public sector and cover a wide range of topics.

To request a virtual session, send an email to: communications@eoc.gov.tt.

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

MARCH 21

"Lodging a complaint and having the matter conciliated can ultimately address and influence the bedrock of racism in our society; it can be a major deterrent for those who discriminate against someone based on their race. It requires deliberate and consistent steps by all of society to rid us of this disease. The EOC is a critical part of the process and we are mindful of its duty to provide redress in appropriate cases of racial discrimination for victims accordingly."

H.R. Roach,
Chairman,
Equal Opportunity Commission

GET TO KNOW US

OUR MANDATE

To work towards the elimination of discrimination and the promotion of equality and good relations between persons of different statuses.

HOW WE CAN HELP YOU?

Lodge a complaint. Members of the public can lodge complaints if they feel that they have been discriminated against. We will receive, investigate and as far as possible, conciliate complaints.

Request an educational session. We currently facilitate, free of charge, virtual educational sessions (related to the mandate of the EOC) such as information to assist organisations write their sexual harassment or disability policies.

Ask for our Guidelines. We prepare, publish and distribute Guidelines for the avoidance of discrimination.

Partner with us. We collaborate with organisations to raise awareness on matters related to the Equal Opportunity Act.

HOW CAN YOU REACH US?

To lodge a complaint, visit our website or send an email to communications@eoc.gov.tt

To request an educational session, guidelines or partnership, send an email to communications@eoc.gov.tt

New Staff Alert!



Shelly Dolabaille
Manager, Corporate Communications



Kieron McCarthy
O.J.T., Graphic Artist