

## Service-Learning Video Project

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This video was completed through our service-learning student positions within the Champaign County Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Board. These positions were made possible through the University of Illinois School of Social Work's various partnerships within the Champaign-Urbana community. The Champaign County Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Board decided to continue their ongoing initiative to make informational videos of different area agencies for the populations they serve. This aligned perfectly with our semester project assignment. As a group, we admired their mission, and we decided to make two informational videos for the disABILITY Resource Expo's YouTube channel.

Filming an educational video about Stephen's Family YMCA, or Larkin's Place, was most likely our favorite project out of the two completed. We were able to develop an informational video that was appealing to watch while still allowing viewers to process the facts being presented to them. Unlike the other disABILITY Resource Expo video, this one had more of a Q & A session style which was valuable because it covered a lot of similar questions the disability community has when going to new places such as Stephen's Family YMCA or Larkin's Place. Along with this, it made the interaction more personable and transparent to those watching.

Relating it back to the social work profession, this project ultimately aligns with the social perspective of disability. The perspective exclaims that "disability is caused by the way society is organized, rather than by a person's impairment or difference. It looks at ways of removing barriers that restrict life choices for disabled people" (Disability Nottinghamshire, 2020). Using this specific perspective, and looking through this unique lens, allowed us as media creators to produce the best content possible to align with the mission at hand.

Stephen's Family YMCA / Larkin's Place: <https://youtu.be/pZnuHhAj8jg>

### Reference

Disability Nottinghamshire. (2020, November 20). *Social Model VS Medical Model of disability*. [disabilitynottinghamshire.org.uk](https://www.disabilitynottinghamshire.org.uk).  
<https://www.disabilitynottinghamshire.org.uk/index.php/about/social-model-vs-medical-model-of-disability/#:~:text=The%20social%20model%20of%20disability,life%20choices%20for%20disabled%20people>

Our second project was filming a video for the Champaign County Clerk. It was the most valuable project out of the two completed. Not only did we receive the opportunity to create something truly meaningful for our community at-large, but we also were able to obtain more knowledge about local politics and the voting process here in Champaign County. More specifically, the clip shows the updated voting system put into place this year for people with disabilities who might need additional assistance to properly execute their voting rights. It also seeks to highlight how voting remains a private and independent experience for all.

Similar to how every county's voting system can be different, every person and their abilities are diverse as well. This is exactly why the Champaign County Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Board and the disABILITY Resource Expo strive to make new, accessible programs and services known to the residents of Champaign County through various media content. Along with this, it gives a lot of individuals peace of mind because we cover what the building looks like, some familiar faces they might see, and what to expect if they decide to utilize these services.

Champaign County Clerk: <https://youtu.be/8kh9MG9KkOg>