



LITTLE PEOPLE OF AMERICA
Empowerment • Awareness • Community

At LPA we want to ensure that our members have protected rights. To ensure that the rights of all our LP members are protected, LPA embraces the idea that dwarfism is considered a disability and members should identify as such. Members should feel confident to identify themselves as disabled.

Dwarfism is a recognized condition under the Americans with Disabilities Act. This is a good thing! Our community is federally protected against discrimination based on our dwarfism.

At its core, LPA is a disability organization. There will be times where LPA will be an ally to other disability organizations or organizations that support marginalized communities whether short statured or not. LPA at its discretion may include ourselves on legislation that we deem important to furthering the rights for all disabled and/or marginalized communities. This does not exclude the fact we are a disability organization and identify ourselves as disabled under federal law.

We recognize that the term disabled can trigger complex or negative emotions for some. To ensure that our members are protected under federal law and are free from discrimination, harassment, while receiving adequate support (i.e., accommodations, the removal of barriers, etc.) we think it is important to identify ourselves as such.

To help our members understand what is in scope of the label “disability” below are the definitions put forth by United Nations and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA):

United Nations

“Persons with disabilities include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual, or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.” ([Article 1 – Purpose | United Nations Enable](#))

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

“The ADA defines a person with a disability as a person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activity This includes people who have a record of such an impairment, even if they do not currently have a disability. It also includes individuals who do not have a disability but are regarded as having a disability. The ADA also makes it unlawful to discriminate against a person based on that person’s association with a person with a disability.” ([Introduction to the Americans with Disabilities Act | ADA.gov](#))

If you have any questions, please contact the Advocacy Director, Samantha Rayburn – Trubyk (advocacy@lpaonline.org) and / or Inclusion Director, Sofiya Cheyenne (inclusion@lpaonline.org).