



Welcome  
Change  
Productions

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## The Melissa Riggio Higher Education Program

"No one has a dream that is unrealistic. Everyone has a dream that challenges us to say how do we support the journey to this dream."

- Carol R. Gothelf, Director of individualized support AHRC, NYC



In 2008, Kingsborough College in Brooklyn opened its doors to the Melissa Riggio High Education Program. It was created by the AHRC of New York City, and is designed the help high school graduates with intellectual disabilities

receive higher education. Since the program's start in 2008, it has grown to include four colleges in the New York City area.

The goal of this program is to engage students in individualized academic, vocational, community and social experiences, preparing them to find jobs after graduation and be active members of their community. This month Welcome Change brings you the video that tells the story behind the Melissa Riggio Higher Education Program.

[Watch Video Here](#)

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## THREE REASONS WHY WE LIKE THIS

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### OPPORTUNITY

Students have the same opportunities for social and personal growth as other young adults who attend college.

### THE SUPPORT GROUP

It's great to see this program getting support from not just the people who created it, but also typical college students who take the time to help the students who are part of the AHRC program.

### LET'S STUDENTS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES

Typically we hear about the program from the creators, but this well-made video lets the students speak for themselves. This makes the experience more real for us.

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There is so much exciting and well-made media about disability. The challenge is knowing where to find it, and how to use it.

Trusted Source is a monthly media recommendation that you can use in your trainings, classrooms, and share with your networks. We hope you enjoy this media and find it insightful.

**GOT A MEDIA  
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