

The <u>College of Alameda - College to Career (C2C) program</u> recently hosted a series of workshops to commemorate National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM). This event, conducted in partnership with the Center for Independent Living, Inc. (CIL), showcased the program's commitment to promoting inclusivity, awareness, and empowerment.

Observed federally each October, NDEAM is designed to educate about disability employment issues and celebrate the many and varied contributions of America's workers with disabilities.

In recognition of this month, C2C provided students and Alameda County community members with a platform for meaningful discussions and learning. The event featured two prominent items: (1) *Equity & Access: Employment Panel* and (2) *Disability Justice Panel*. These events brought together experts, advocates, and individuals with disabilities to share their insights, experiences, and solutions.

The Equity & Access: Employment Panel explored the challenges and successes in the world of disability employment, shedding light on the unique perspectives and opportunities within this sphere. It served as an inspiration for those seeking to navigate their career paths while facing disabilities. The Disability Justice Workshop was another integral part of the event, delving into the broader issues of justice and equality for individuals with disabilities. This panel sought to promote a more inclusive society, emphasizing the significance of creating equal access, opportunities, and rights for everyone.

The "C2C Presents: Disability & Intersectionality Speaker Series (2023)" event achieved its objectives in creating awareness, fostering dialogue, and inspiring collective action. Participants left with a deeper understanding of the issues faced by individuals with disabilities in the workforce and a renewed commitment to advocate for positive change.