Without the contributions of people with disabilities, what would this world be?

YOU can make a difference, too!
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The inventor of the telephone had a learning disability and slight hearing loss.

Alexander Graham Bell

The world’s greatest living violinist walks with the help of crutches and leg braces. He contracted polio when he was 4 years old.

Itzhak Perlman

The Greek who is often called “the first pure mathematician” had epileptic seizures.

Pythagoras

The woman who was called “the Moses of her people” led many slaves to freedom on the Underground Railroad. At the age of 12 she was seriously injured by a blow to the head for refusing to assist in tying up a man who had attempted escape. The injury caused her to have seizures throughout her life.

Helen Keller’s teacher and lifelong friend was herself nearly blind due to a childhood illness.

Harriet Tubman

The first U.S. president had very poor grammar skills and could barely write because of a learning disability.

George Washington

You can make a difference, too!

The eloquent scholar who led Great Britain through World War II worked hard all his life to overcome a speech impediment.

Sir Winston Churchill

The raw n’ raucous lead singer of Guns N’ Roses has been diagnosed and treated for bipolar disorder.

Axl Rose

Perhaps the world’s most accomplished astrophysicist, whose theories draw upon both relativity theory and quantum mechanics, much of his work has been done since he was diagnosed with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, also called “Lou Gehrig’s Disease.”

Stephen Hawking

This British writer and editor contributed much to modern literature and social reform in spite of severe bipolar disorder.

Virginia Woolf

One of America’s best-known actors, his resonant voice once stuttered badly.

James Earl Jones

The author of “Paradise Lost” and other epic poems dictated his poetry to an assistant after glaucoma caused him to lose his sight.

John Milton

Various biographies describe the artist as suffering with epilepsy, depression, psychotic attacks, delusions, and bipolar disorder.

Vincent van Gogh

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A major language impairment is Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) that had not been named when Henry Ford’s ideas about mass production revolutionized American industry, but he exhibited all the classic symptoms.

Henry Ford

One of America’s greatest poets, an extreme mood disorder caused her to become a recluse and she rarely left her home after her mid-20s.

Emily Dickinson

The wife of America’s 32nd president was a tireless social reformer and activist with what we now call attention deficit disorder.

Eleanor Roosevelt

If you have a disability and you want to work, call the WV Division of Rehabilitation Services 1-800-642-8207 Voice/TDD