



## VIRTUAL FRIENDSHIP VISIT EVENT BEST PRACTICES & CODE OF CONDUCT

The Ability Experience is committed to creating shared experiences between the men of Pi Kappa Phi and people with disabilities, both virtually and in person. No matter the method, the safety and well-being of all participants is a top priority. This document provides all participants with expectations of how to conduct themselves to provide a fun, positive experience for all involved in Virtual Friendship Visits. Through virtual events like these, we continue our work together to create a community, one relationship at a time, where the abilities of all people are recognized and valued.

### **Provide a safe environment for everyone to be included**

- Appropriate language, gestures and conduct are required at all times
  - Refrain from using offensive words and phrases
  - Avoid inappropriate topics of discussion; reroute conversation to more appropriate topics as needed
  - Adhere to appropriate behavioral / social limits
- Any form of bullying or harassment is strictly prohibited
  - No individual should be the subject of any joke or teasing, including yourself
  - No negative comments should be made about anyone, even if it is intended as a joke or sarcasm
- Be respectful of the privacy of all participants
  - Do not provide anyone with your personal information or ask a participant for their personal information
  - Do not take pictures, screenshots or video unless given permission by The Ability Experience (some organizations/participants do not allow the taking of photos or videos during events)
- Provide opportunity for all participants to be involved in the activities and/or conversations

### **Be yourself and get to know others for who they are**

- Be open to sharing things about yourself, why you are participating, things you enjoy, etc.
- Ask other participants questions to get to know them
- Stay engaged and open to learning new things from new friends

### **Be prepared and get set up before the event**

- Have your computer/phone, camera, microphone, etc. set up before the event
- Be mindful of your background
  - A darker background is preferred so that people can see you more clearly
  - Find a background with limited distraction around or behind you that may take away from everyone's experience
  - Find a location that has limited background noises so you can be heard clearly
- Mute your microphone when you are not talking so that others can be heard clearly

### **Have fun!**

- This is a judgement free environment so go ahead, loosen up and enjoy yourself!
- Everyone is a 'cool kid' no matter how silly you think you or someone else looks doing an activity with the group.
- Be creative; be spontaneous, be flexible

*Please note that The Ability Experience may record all virtual Friendship Visits for the safety of all participants and to share event highlights on various platforms for promotional purposes.*