Brown Bag Discussion: Web Accessibility--not Rocket Science!

Center for Persons With Disabilities
BROWN BAG DISCUSSION: WEB ACCESSIBILITY--NOT ROCKET SCIENCE!

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Did you know that 8.5% of the population has a disability that affects their ability to use a computer?

According to WebAIM’s presenters at the last CPD Brown Bag Discussion (Jared Smith, Jon Whiting, Tom Galloway, & Dio Hernandez), when we talk about web accessibility, we’re not talking about rocket science. There are “information systems flexible enough to meet the needs of the broadest range of users…regardless of age or disability.”

Whether we are talking about vision/hearing impairments, motor, or cognitive impairments, there is an application or accommodation that will expand the user’s ability to operate a computer. And WebAIM knows them all!

One of the great things that has come out of WebAIM is its web accessibility evaluation tool called WAVE. Anyone can test how accessible their web page or entire website is, simply by inputting an URL address and reading the results. Not only does WAVE let you know what is inaccessible, it can help tell you how to fix it. It couldn’t be easier.

You should check out the WebAIM website and try out the WAVE tool. You will also find articles and resources, training and technical assistance, newsletters, blogs, checklists and guides for accessibility.

WebAIM is a great resource and provides a valuable service in this computer age.