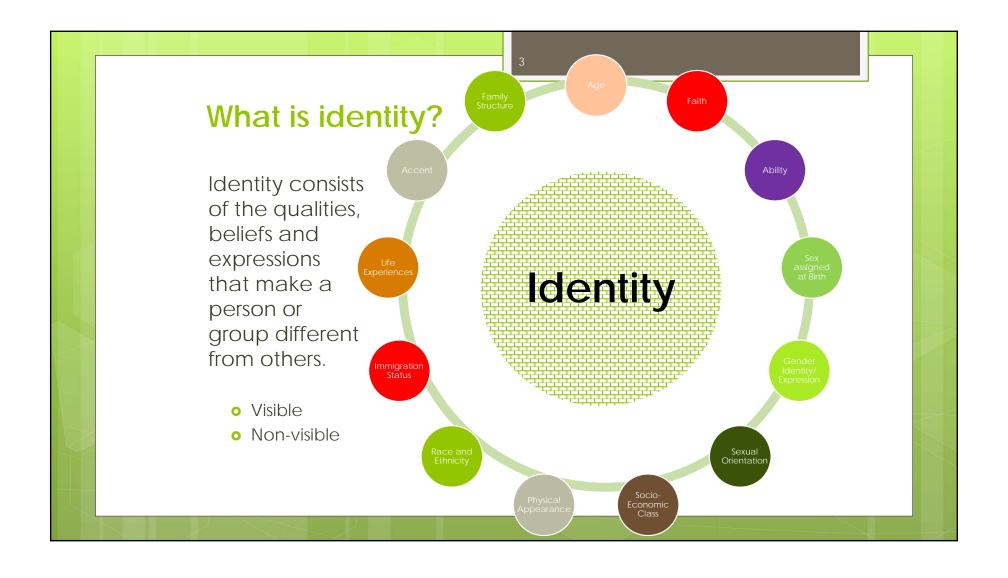


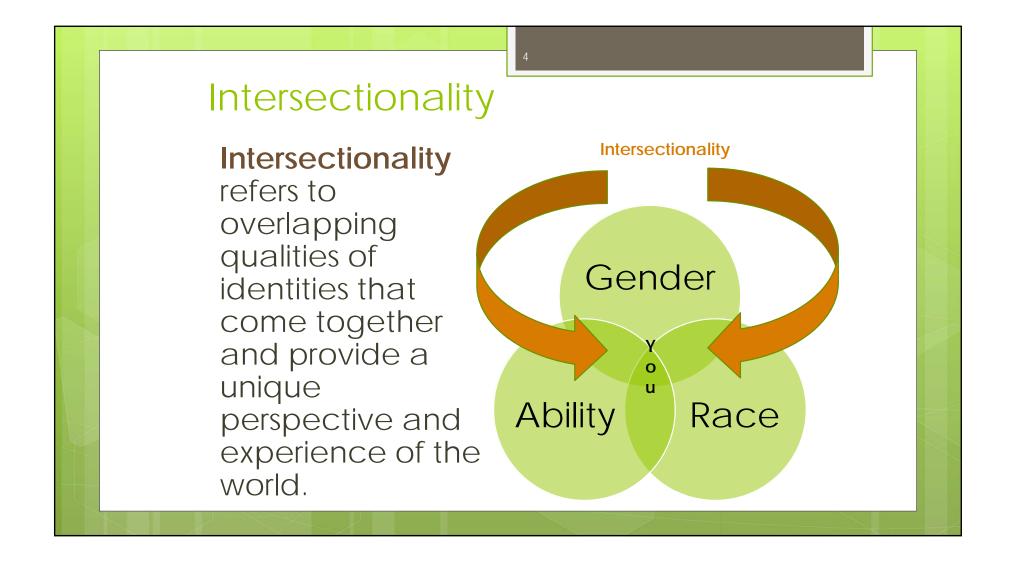
Foundational Definitions

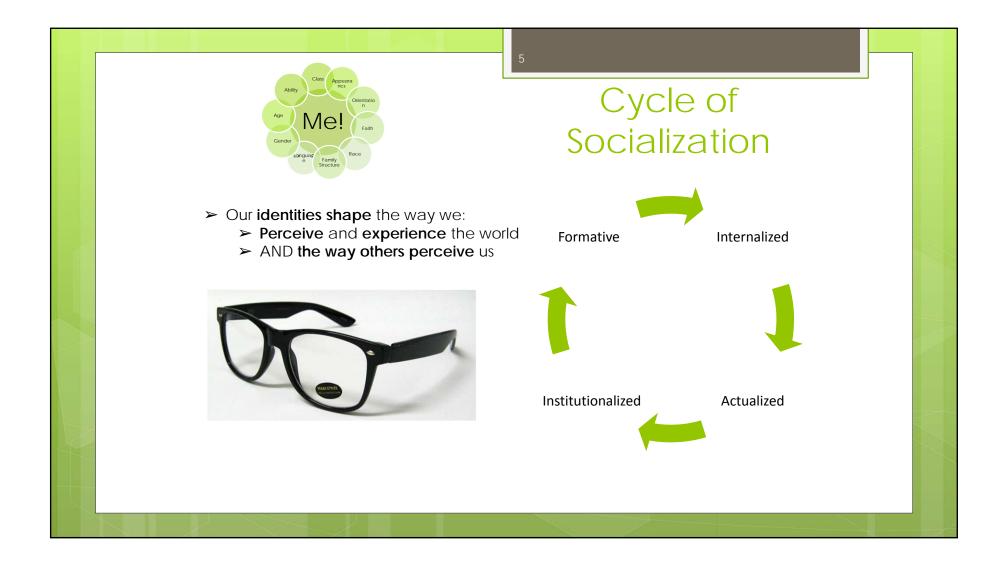
Identity consists of the qualities, beliefs and expressions that make a person or group different from others.

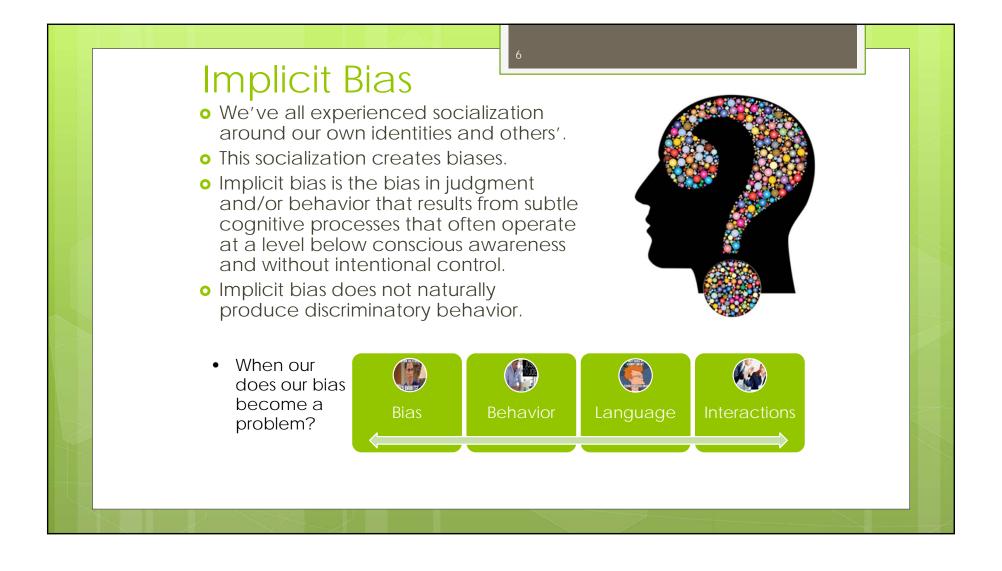
Intersectionality refers to overlapping qualities of identity that come together and provide a unique perspective and experience of the world.

Blinders are what happens when our identities and natural bias influence our awareness of experiences different than our own, which limit our ability to relate to and understand others.









What does this all mean?



- You have complex, multifaceted, intersectional identities.
- Others' personal identity is just as complex.
- Our identities shape the way we:
 - Perceive and experience the world
 - AND the way others perceive us.
- We tend to **ignore** those aspects of identity that just **aren't salient for us**.
- What relationship do your identities have to your social network and inclusion?



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Color Key

- Blue = Same as you
- Red = Different Sexual orientation than you
- Black = Different Nationality than you
- Green = Different Faith than you
- Yellow = Different disability/ability status than you
- Orange = Different Race/Ethnicity than you
- Brown = Different Gender than you
- White = Do not know

Directions

- Step 1: Write down how you identify Example: I identify as Black American, cis-Female, born in the US, Heterosexual, no disability (visual or non-visual)
- Step 2: I will ask you to select which colors represent the intersectional identities of certain people in your life. You will have 3 color options for each person.
- Step 3: Fill in your circle based on the intersectional identities of the people I mention. If there are multiple that fall into a category consider the identity that the majority of the people hold.
- In this activity we will be looking at the intersection of 3 identities. The identities will be different so see the slide for each one, before making your selection.

Example:

Favorite Teacher

- Race
- Gender
- **Sexual Orientation**

Questions?

My favorite teach was Mrs. Foxall

Race: Black

Gender: cis-Female

Sexual Orientation: Heterosexual

All of Ms. Foxall's Identities are the same as mine, so I would color

circle all blue

If Mrs. Foxall had been a different race than I, I would color 2/3 blue and 1/3 Orange.

If hold the same Identity as you in every area color **BLUE**.

Partner

•Race

•Nationality

Disability

Neighbor

oRace

Sexual Orientation

•Gender

If hold the same Identity as you in every area color **BLUE**

Best Friend

oRace

•Gender

ODisability

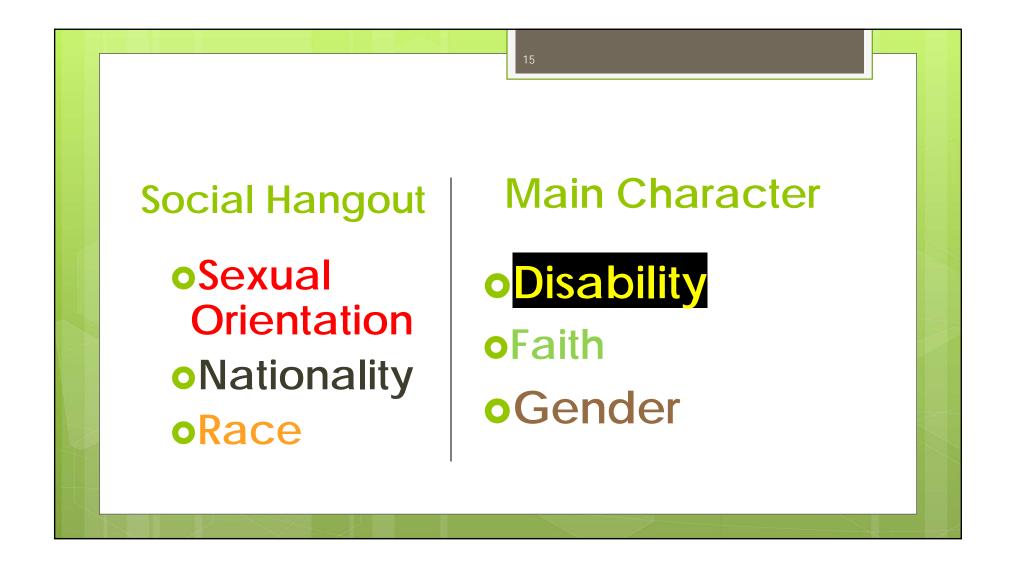
Mentor/Look up to

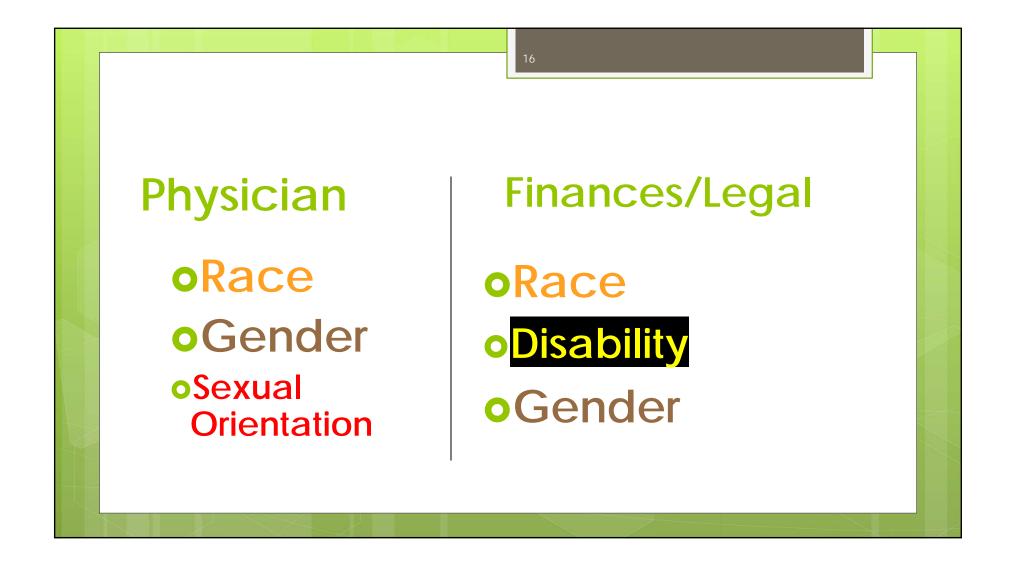
oRace

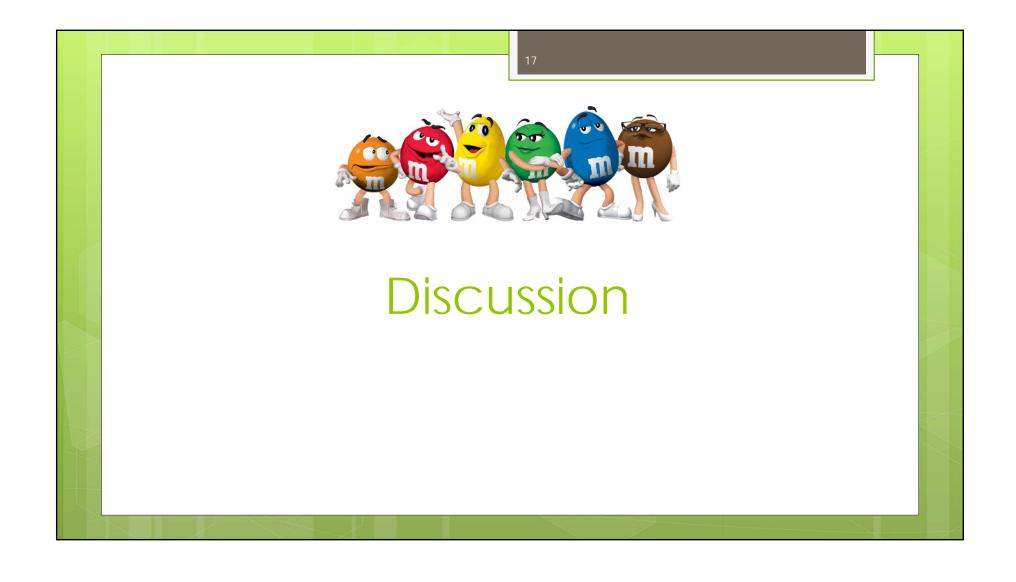
ODisability

•Gender

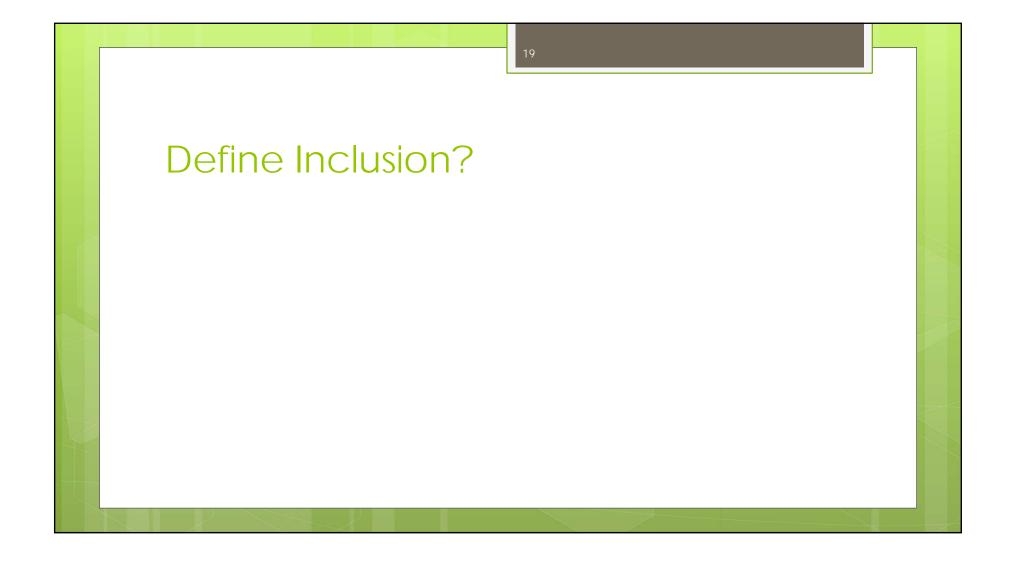
Lunch in HS **Lunch Now o**Faith **o**Faith •Sexual Sexual Orientation **Orientation** Nationality Nationality



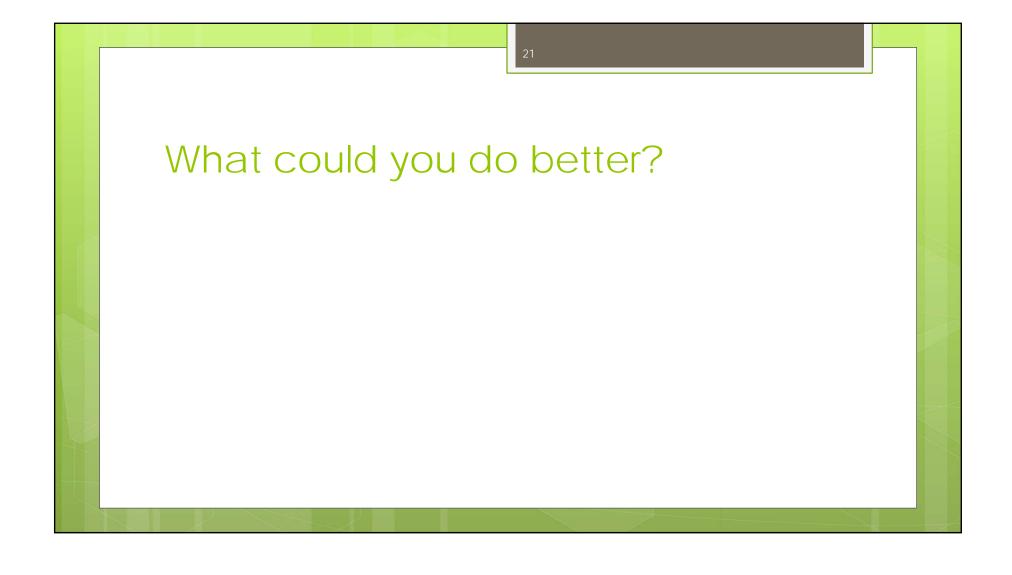








How does your office demonstrate inclusion or diversity?



What will you do to create a more inclusive culture for staff & clients?

Conclusion



- We all have bias and have experienced socialization from peers, family, the media regarding others' identity.
 - These biases create blinders
- This impacts the way we communicate and relate with each other;
- We need to do our best to be intentional about our social networks in order to expand our business circles
 - Avoid tokenism and check box diversity
- For us to diversify our organizations we must first create a culture that welcomes that diversity and is equitable for all.

2.

Keep the Conversation Going!

- Attend an Omaha Table Talk
- Contact Cammy to schedule a workshop for your office. <u>Cammy@inclusive-</u> <u>communities.org</u> or 402-391-4460
- Visit our website for additional resources or events: <u>www.inclusive-communities.org</u>



Thank you! Cammy Watkins **Inclusive Communities** 6001 Dodge St CEC 122 Omaha NE 68182 402-391-4460 www.inclusive-communities.org