



Dear Trinity Students!

My name is Tharpa Huebner, I'm 22 years old, coming from Germany and study History in second year. I'm visual impaired and officially blind, which means that I have 1.6% on one eye, and none on the other. I would love to help to make Trinity more inclusive and accessible the environment for mental health and disabled students.

My role as a Disability advisor for the University of Jena, Germany during a project in which the University wanted to establish a peer-to-peer disability inclusion scout system, and my own life, in which I had to overcome challenges provided by the environment over and over again, show me the importance, but also the positive impact of an engagement for the rights of mental health and disabled students.

As an outgoing person, I learned to educate my own rights in college, as well as in my school, my experience as head boy will guide me, how to understand myself and to work as a spokes person for the interests of mental health and disabled students.

There is also need, to develop the awareness for mental health issues and to make it more comfortable to speak about them. Here I see also a chance to connect and cooperate with the chaplain. I'd like to establish a regular time for a talk every two weeks after the welfare-tea e.g.

A key element of my work would be, to make Trinity more inclusive and a more accessible environment would be to work together with the Disability Resource Center, and help students to get to know already existing support programs and to help to tailor them to their interests.

During my first year I experienced, that even though there is a great variety of support available in the college, sometimes the coordination with the DRC is not as efficient as it could be, which would be top priority during my year as a Disability Officer.

Furthermore I would love to make sure, that all college events are accessible, as well as a welcoming environment for every student.

I would be always around to answer questions, or to also explain things to people without a mental health/disability during my years as a Disability Officer, because I believe that, to increase this awareness of this issue, to make Trinity a welcoming place to disabled students and students with mental health and disabled students.

Coordination with the Disability Resource Center with a regular meeting, hopefully with TCSU representatives (every 2 weeks).

Inclusion Scouts program: I would love to enable interested students to help freshers with mental health and disabled students to access all social and academical features of this university by putting a peer-to-peer program in place: One person, who is not disabled can support a disabled person during the first year to get everything settled and to answer questions.

This is what I love to implement with a workshop for the "Inclusion Scouts" and try to get funding for this.

I also would love to increase the awareness of paralympic sports, due to the fact that one of my best friends holds a honoree blue in rowing for his great achievements for Germany in the rowing worldcup in the paralympic division. Therefore, I would like also to cooperate also with the sports-committee to make disabled students aware, which sports are best suited to their interests maybe also in college level.