



Why Is Language Important

- Acknowledge the value of the person, show respect
- Create a welcoming environment
- Reduce stigma
- Build community rather than creating a sense of “other”

What is Person-First Language?

A way of using language that describes a trait or diagnosis as something a person has rather than as who they are. People are more than just their diagnosis.



Using Person-First Language

Rebecca ~~is~~ bipolar.

Rebecca has bipolar disorder.

Rebecca lives with bipolar disorder.

Rebecca experiences bipolar disorder.

~~*Homeless individuals*~~

Individuals experiencing homelessness

John ~~was~~ homeless.

John experienced homelessness.

