

THE 2019 DISABILITY AWARENESS TASK FORCE

# Celebration of Abilities



**Tuesday, October 22, 2019**  
**5:00 pm - 7:00 pm**

River's Edge Convention Center  
10 – 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, St. Cloud, MN

*A light meal will be served along with door prizes! The winners of the 2019 Inspiration Awards will receive their awards and the winning video from the #BetheONE video contest will also be shown! This event is **FREE** and open to the public, **but seating is limited to the first 300 guests.***

## Special Guest Speaker Mea



Melissa Wanna, better known by her nickname Mea, is a survivor of a Traumatic Brain Injury she sustained in 2010 that left her with memory loss, post concussive syndrome and severe chronic pain in the form of an intractable, persistent migraine. Mea found herself faced with overwhelming obstacles while struggling to navigate through a whole new life with an invisible disability. When faced with adversity, Mea found her voice through music and art. Mea holds a strong passion for music and singing. She currently sings with the local cover band Element X. Mea will share how music has been an essential element in maintaining strength and providing hope throughout her journey. Mea began painting as a way to both express herself and share her story.

### **Disability Awareness Task Force (DATF) Members:**

Independent Lifestyles, Inc. – Lead Agency,  
Central MN Deaf & Hard of Hearing Services, Central MN Sexual Assault Center, Goodwill-Easter Seals, Independence Center, ISD 742 Community Education, Metro Bus, Opportunity Matters, Quality Care Services, Home Care, St. Cloud Workforce Center, United Cerebral Palsy of Central MN, VA Health Care System, Vocational Rehabilitation Services, and WACOSA.

**Food! Prizes! Fun!**