# Talk Descriptions

# A New Workplace Culture

The Expansive Potential of Modern Disability for Modern Business

What workplace culture believes about disability determines what happens when a candidate with a disability shows up for a job, or when an existing employee reports an impairment.

The new paradigm of Modern Disability sees the true potential in people with disabilities and how they perform—with or without accommodation. Gary brings workplace culture up to speed on this new truth of disability—people using the resources and strategies that allow them to stay on the job, and be their absolute best.

## **Audience**

Business, Diversity, Disability

#### Value

Best Practices, Productivity, Profitability, Diversity

# Wired to Survive and Thrive

How We Are Built to Handle Trauma—When We Get What We Need No one imagines they can face a disability. Yet experience shows that thriving after trauma is far more the rule than the exception.

How does this work? How do individuals, families, and employers move through traumatic change — and succeed?

Gary shares the dramatic and compelling story of Modern Disability, and the overwhelming evidence of how people make the seemingly impossible adjustment when they get the support they need.

#### Audience

Rehab, Disability, Healthcare

## Value

Motivation / Inspiration, Improved Service

# Disability & the Diversity Mosaic

It's the Missing Piece— At Last Being Discovered

People of color, women, gays—just some of the groups who have fought to be seen for who they are and what they have to offer.

People with Disabilities are next up, still in the early stages of "coming out," and playing their full roles in their communities and at work.

Gary's enlightening talk shows diversity professionals how people with disabilities fit in the picture — as employees and as customersas they make their dramatic emergence into all levels of society.

### Audience

Business, Diversity, Disability

## Value

Diversity, Customer Service, Profitability

# Customers with **Disabilities**

An Emerging, Exploding Market for Business

People with disabilities have \$200 billion of disposable income!

Higher levels of education and access mean that they are working and spending. The businesses who understand the disability market will gain the the loyalty of this large consumer segment.

Gary provides specific guidance on how customers with disabilities expect to be treated by companies who want their continuing business—and the potential faux pas that can drive them away.

#### Audience

**Business** 

## Value

Profitability

# Gary Karp's Life On Wheels

Gary's Inspirational and Ever-So-Human Journey as a Wheelchair User with Spinal Cord Injury

Gary broke his back and injured his spinal cord at the age of 18. In this compelling and inspirational talk, he shows what is possible when we choose to simply keep moving forward—with the love and support of family, and access to the resources that make independence possible.

Gary's humorous, insightful, and poignant talk is not designed to impress us with his heroism. Instead he illuminates the deep capacity in everyone to reach for the true potential in our lives. "Everyone surprises themselves," he says, "facing what seems impossible."

#### Audience

Business, Healthcare, Disability

#### Value

Motivation, Inspiration, Productivity

Author, speaker, and trainer Gary Karp is a nationally-respected disability awareness expert-inducted

in 2007 into the Spinal Cord Injury Hall of Fame as a disability educator. Four books, numerous articles and radio commentaries—and advanced juggling skills—are among the accomplishments which account for his unique insight and special ability to inform and inspire—and meet the needs of your event.

# Gary Karp

Disability Awareness Expert, Author, Speaker, Trainer

