Chapter Exercises for **Chapter 8: Physical Challenges and Supportive Services**

1. The opening vignette features Joe, an administrator who works with The Arc. Explore the history of The Arc and write a reflection on the importance of grassroots organizations for people with disabilities.

2. Locate a family member or friend who has a disability (physical or mental challenge). Ask this person what concerns she or he has about being disabled. Write a report on how this person has managed disclosure of the disability, issues at school and in the workplace, and activities of daily living.

3. What famous people (dead or alive) had or have a disability, yet still made valuable contributions to society? Start by investigating some of the following:

a. *Artists and musicians:* James Durbin (autism advocate, guitarist, and singer who finished fourth in Season 10 of *American Idol*); Ludwig van Beethoven (composer with a hearing disorder); Ray Charles (African American musician and singer who was blind); Francisco Goya (Spanish painter who became deaf at age 46)

b. *Actors:* Henry Winkler (played “The Fonz” on the TV show *Happy Days* and has dyslexia); Marlee Matlin (Oscar winner who is deaf and uses sign language); Michael J. Fox (lives with Parkinson’s disease)

c. *Historical figures:* Julius Caesar (Roman Emperor who had epilepsy); General

George Patton (WWII hero who had dyslexia); U.S. President George Washington

(had a learning disability that affected his spelling); U.S. President Franklin D.

Roosevelt (childhood polio affected his mobility); Albert Einstein (physicist and

mathematician who had a learning disability)

4. How can students become more aware of and engaged with people who live with

physical, mobility, neurocognitive, developmental, or mental challenges?

5. How does your campus serve people who live with learning, developmental, or

physical challenges?