

Hi,

My name is Ingrid Schneider. I am 42 and have lived in Somerville for over 10 years. I am a single mom to 2 little boys enrolled in Somerville schools.

I was diagnosed with MS 11 years ago. My disease burden was very light until about two years ago. In the past 2 years I have experienced disability. I now walk with a cane, have a handicap placard, do physical therapy and any study available through mgh to try to get stronger. But it's so hard and can be disempowering! It's a complicated journey. I feel like disability has been a new set of glasses and I see the world through a lens of accessibility. (Parking, elevators, handrails), and attitudes of ableism. It's a lot and there's such an emphasis on inclusion but we're still ignored somehow? I would love to be part of a larger conversation and community of people in Somerville (esp. for people my age) who deserve to be seen, considered and have their needs met!

There's any more information you need I'd be happy to give it. Thank you so much.

Ingrid Schneider