

# KEEP IT PUSHING




My name is Gilbert J. I am an American blog writer from Los Angeles, California. Born with Spina Bifida, I've always wanted to use my life challenges to help and inspire others who have shared similar experiences.

Everything I have been through and all the personal knowledge I've gained, I can share with others. My motivation in launching this blog is that it'll make the process a little easier for the next person. By highlighting adaptable products and available resources, **Keep It Pushing** e-newsletter is your virtual buddy for quality information.



### Bonus Activist

Lois Curtis

Best known for her role as a plaintiff in the *Olmstead vs. L.C.* Supreme Court Case, which established the right of people with disabilities to live independently. Her advocacy has had a lasting impact on both movements.

## February Awareness Spotlight: BlindUnited.Org

Happy February! This month, we're taking a slightly different approach. With recent efforts by our current administration to undermine Black History Month and cancel the values of diversity, equality, and inclusion, we've decided to highlight individuals who represent civil rights, both male and female, within the disabled community. By doing this, we aim to showcase the closely related struggles and achievements within these communities.

### Spotlight on Activists:

#### Brad Lomax (1950-1984)

Brad Lomax was a Civil Rights leader and disability rights activist who played a crucial role in uniting the two movements. He was a member of the Black Panther Party and was instrumental in the 1977 504 Sit-In, which led to the implementation of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

#### Fannie Lou Hamer (1917-1977)

Fannie Lou Hamer was a civil rights activist with multiple disabilities. She was a pivotal figure in the fight for Black enfranchisement, women's rights, and civil rights. Her work paved the ...

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way for future disability rights movements.

#### Johnnie Lacy (1937-2010)

Johnnie Lacy was an advocate for independent living and helped found the Berkeley Center for Independent Living. She also ran Hayward, California's Community Resources for Independent Living (CRIL) for over a decade.

#### Donald Galloway (1938-2011)

Donald Galloway was a fierce advocate for the rights of people with disabilities and for the inclusion of people of color in the disability rights movement. He held several notable positions, including executive director for the Colorado Governor's Council on Disability.

It's important to note that this newsletter is not intended to take a political stance but rather to express the commonalities within minority communities in this country. By highlighting these individuals, we aim to reinforce the unity and strength that comes from recognizing our shared struggles and achievements.

Thank you for continuing to support the [KeepItPushing.org](http://KeepItPushing.org) movement. Until next month, let's keep pushing forward together.