Parshat Terumah
"Dwelling Among Us"

In Parshat Terumah we read the following pasuk:

<u>שמות פרק כה</u>

(ח) וְעָשׂוּ לִי מִקְדָּשׁ וְשָׁכַנְתִּי בְּתוֹכָם:

"They shall make, Me, Hashem, a sanctuary- so that I may dwell among them." It seems odd that the pasuk says בתוכם in plural and not in singular, which would be בתוכו. There is only one Mikdash, so why is it written in plural?

From the pasuk, it may seem like Hashem will dwell in many places. However, the אלשיך comments that the pasuk means, Hashem will dwell in each *person*, and that is why the word is plural. Hashem resides in each person's heart and we must recognize that by understanding that this is true for our peers with disabilities as well. Hashem resides within each of us and recognizes all of our abilities.

Shabbat Shalom!