

## WEBVTT

00:00:36.859 --> 00:00:38.859

Stephanie Howard-Gallo: Are you recording already?

00:00:40.031 --> 00:00:42.031

Lynn Canfield: I can stop.

00:00:41.668 --> 00:00:43.668

Stephanie Howard-Gallo: Well, we've got 30 minutes.

00:00:42.922 --> 00:00:44.922

Lynn Canfield: Oh, okay, I'll wait.

00:00:45.929 --> 00:00:48.929

Stephanie Howard-Gallo: Oh, that's just seemed like kind of a long time. I don't know.

00:00:54.989 --> 00:00:56.989

Kim Fisher: Recorded.

00:00:57.359 --> 00:01:02.359

You're supposed to record. I think you just did. Kim Bowdry: No, I did not. That's the zoom.

00:01:02.769 --> 00:01:04.769

I still have to go back there and and record -

00:01:04.813 --> 00:01:06.813

push the play on the... yeah.

00:01:07.078 --> 00:01:09.078

Kim Fisher: Oh.

00:01:09.079 --> 00:01:13.015

Lynn Canfield: I'm just getting a little bit excited and going, it's 15 minutes early, but I'm

00:01:13.933 --> 00:01:15.933

Can't wait.

00:01:16.862 --> 00:01:18.862

Kim Bowdry: Wow.

00:01:19.630 --> 00:01:21.630

I don't know how to unlock it, or I don't even know how to lock it.

00:01:21.636 --> 00:01:23.636

There we go, yeah.

00:01:24.640 --> 00:01:26.640

Stephanie Howard-Gallo: Can we stand out there? Unknown Speaker: That's creative. Stephanie Howard-Gallo: Kim?

00:01:32.350 --> 00:01:34.350  
Did you catch that, Lynn?

00:01:35.956 --> 00:01:37.956  
Lynn Canfield: No.

00:01:40.810 --> 00:01:44.810  
Stephanie Howard-Gallo: I guess the front door is locked, so I'm going to stand out there.

00:01:46.053 --> 00:01:48.053  
What?

00:01:48.054 --> 00:01:50.580  
Lynn Canfield: Okay.

00:01:51.472 --> 00:01:53.472  
Jen Straub: I'll text Steve.

00:01:53.747 --> 00:01:57.747  
Lynn Canfield: Do you... did you use the remote and it didn't work?

00:01:57.747 --> 00:01:59.677  
Jen Straub: They're trying the remote now, Lynn.

00:01:59.677 --> 00:02:01.908  
Lynn Canfield: Okay, because that usually works.

00:02:02.843 --> 00:02:04.843  
Jen Straub: Okay, they haven't done that yet, so...

00:02:05.390 --> 00:02:09.390  
Lynn Canfield: So, so last week it didn't work, but then they came over and fixed it,

00:02:10.616 --> 00:02:12.616  
But they know that it might not be

00:02:12.973 --> 00:02:14.973  
fixed, fixed, so...

00:02:15.440 --> 00:02:17.440  
Jen Straub: How are you?

00:02:17.439 --> 00:02:18.635  
Lynn Canfield: Good, how are you?

00:02:19.284 --> 00:02:21.284  
Jen Straub: I'm okay.

00:02:21.531 --> 00:02:25.531

Lynn Canfield: And so, this is my favorite. I love this study session.

00:02:24.890 --> 00:02:27.890

Jen Straub: Excuse me.

00:02:27.890 --> 00:02:28.049

Lynn Canfield: So, I'm very excited about it.

00:02:28.843 --> 00:02:30.843

Jen Straub: Yeah, me too.

00:02:30.843 --> 00:02:31.016

Lynn Canfield: Bless you. Good.

00:02:31.103 --> 00:02:33.103

Good to see ya.

00:02:53.517 --> 00:02:55.517

Lynn Canfield: Maybe I should pause the recording again.

00:04:48.835 --> 00:04:54.835

Jane Sprandel: All right, welcome to everyone who has joined us this evening. I would like to call the joint

00:04:55.892 --> 00:04:59.892

Study session to call or joint study session to order.

00:04:59.662 --> 00:05:01.662

Can we have a roll call, please?

00:05:02.517 --> 00:05:04.517

Stephanie Howard-Gallo: Susan Fowler. Susan Fowler: here. Stephanie Howard-Gallo: Neil Sharma.

00:05:05.122 --> 00:05:07.122

Kim Fisher. Kim Fisher: here.

00:05:08.000 --> 00:05:10.000

Stephanie Howard-Gallo: Dianne Gordon. Anne Robin.

00:05:10.454 --> 00:05:12.454

Anne Robin: Here.

00:05:12.796 --> 00:05:14.796

Stephanie Howard-Gallo: Den Arres.

00:05:14.774 --> 00:05:16.774

Alejandro Gomez.

00:05:16.763 --> 00:05:18.763

Tony Nichols.

00:05:18.997 --> 00:05:20.997

Elaine Palencia. Elaine Palencia: Here.

00:05:20.814 --> 00:05:22.814  
Stephanie Howard-Gallo: Kyle Patterson.

00:05:23.009 --> 00:05:25.009  
Molly McLay.

00:05:26.249 --> 00:05:28.249  
Jen Straub. Jen Straub: here.

00:05:28.258 --> 00:05:30.258  
Stephanie Howard-Gallo: Jon Paul Youakim.

00:05:31.255 --> 00:05:33.255  
Jane Sprandel. Jane Sprandel: here.

00:05:36.808 --> 00:05:38.808  
Stephanie Howard-Gallo: We don't have quorum.

00:05:42.511 --> 00:05:45.511  
Jane Sprandel: Is Molly McLay on Zoom right now?

00:05:45.726 --> 00:05:47.726  
Stephanie Howard-Gallo: I don't see her okay.

00:05:46.961 --> 00:05:51.961  
Lynn Canfield: She is not, but her... if she's not in the physical room, you don't have a quorum

00:05:52.842 --> 00:05:54.842  
In order to vote her in, but - so she can

00:05:54.929 --> 00:05:58.929  
So since there's no action, we can just let everybody in and

00:05:58.271 --> 00:06:00.271  
Okay.

00:06:00.477 --> 00:06:02.477  
Jane Sprandel: Perfect, very good.

00:06:11.542 --> 00:06:13.542  
Anne Robin: I move to approve the agenda.

00:06:14.309 --> 00:06:17.309  
Oh, we can't... we can't do any motions or votes. We just have to have

00:06:17.309 --> 00:06:21.031  
We just have to have the study session. Jane Sprandel: Yes.

00:06:21.768 --> 00:06:25.768  
Anne Robin: And we're really, I'm Anne Robin with the DD Board.

00:06:26.350 --> 00:06:29.350

We're really happy to have everybody here today.

00:06:29.896 --> 00:06:31.896

Um, I don't know why...

00:06:32.373 --> 00:06:35.373

Some individuals were not able to come, but everybody has

00:06:35.374 --> 00:06:38.430

Various things, and this is a difficult time.

00:06:39.301 --> 00:06:42.301

So, thank you so much for being here, and we look forward to hearing from you.

00:06:48.485 --> 00:06:51.485

Jane Sprandel: And I am Jane Sprandel. I am the

00:06:53.020 --> 00:07:01.020

mental health board chair, and I also welcome you here again. If you didn't hear my announcement earlier, there is water, and

00:07:01.020 --> 00:07:03.164

A variety of snacks back there. Please help yourself.

00:07:05.877 --> 00:07:07.877

Anne Robin: So we have

00:07:08.505 --> 00:07:10.505

Kim Bowdry.

00:07:14.464 --> 00:07:17.464

Kim Bowdry: Thank you all so much for this great presentation.

00:07:17.743 --> 00:07:19.743

I'm going to give my time to Kim Fisher.

00:07:23.390 --> 00:07:30.390

Kim Fisher: Hi Everyone. Thanks, Kim. Welcome, everyone. I do have a few things to say. Thanks. Thank you to the advocates.

00:07:30.390 --> 00:07:34.393

Uh, for their work on this amazing presentation and sharing their expertise

00:07:34.791 --> 00:07:36.791

On disability rights in the community.

00:07:37.107 --> 00:07:43.107

Thank you to the staff at DSC and community choices who have supported people with disabilities in this advocacy work.

00:07:43.807 --> 00:07:47.807

Welcome to the DD board members, mental health board members, staff,

00:07:47.677 --> 00:07:52.677

Uh, and the community. My name's Kim Fisher. I'm a DD board member working with this group.

00:07:53.144 --> 00:07:58.144

To share knowledge about the resolution, what it means to people with disabilities in this community,

00:07:58.145 --> 00:08:00.188

And potential steps forward.

00:08:00.187 --> 00:08:05.097

The group has charged me with providing just a brief history of how we got here

00:08:05.767 --> 00:08:12.767

So that everybody's on the same page. So I have a few things, um, and I'm going to read from my computer, so I make sure I say everything correctly.

00:08:13.347 --> 00:08:21.347

So, the resolution came to being, initially because of statements HHS Secretary Kennedy made in April 2025,

00:08:21.349 --> 00:08:23.250

Regarding autistic people.

00:08:23.249 --> 00:08:28.737

In a news conference, Mr. Kennedy stated, among other things, that autism destroys families,

00:08:29.289 --> 00:08:33.289

And that autistic people would, quote, never pay taxes, never hold a job,

00:08:33.352 --> 00:08:38.352

They'll never play baseball, they'll never write a poem, they'll never go out on a date.

00:08:38.351 --> 00:08:40.936

Many of them will never use the toilet unassisted.

00:08:41.150 --> 00:08:46.150

This statement was overwhelmingly disavowed by disabled people, the autistic community,

00:08:46.151 --> 00:08:50.459

The disability community, and many professional organizations, including

00:08:51.088 --> 00:08:54.088

The American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities,

00:08:54.903 --> 00:08:59.903

The American Association on Persons with Disabilities, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and others.

00:09:00.593 --> 00:09:06.593

Of course, research indicates a large portion of autistic people do not have these extensive support needs,

00:09:06.464 --> 00:09:13.464

And regardless of if they did or not, autistic people are valued members of their communities and their families in their own right,

00:09:13.653 --> 00:09:16.653

And have a right to exist and be valued.

00:09:16.882 --> 00:09:23.882

Two other areas of concern have made this resolution even more important. On June 18, 2026,

00:09:24.886 --> 00:09:29.886

The Department of Justice's Office of Legal Counsel issued a slip opinion,

00:09:30.263 --> 00:09:36.263

That stated the federal laws, Section 504 of the Rehab Act and Title II of the ADA,

00:09:36.263 --> 00:09:39.968

Do not require integration of disabled people in the community.

00:09:40.759 --> 00:09:45.759

The federal government had been following the Supreme Court case, famously known as the Olmstead decision,

00:09:45.801 --> 00:09:47.801

In which the decision was made,

00:09:48.698 --> 00:09:52.698

Um, that people with disabilities do have a right to receive their services in the community.

00:09:53.160 --> 00:09:58.160

That decision was in 1999, and we've been working on that from that decision for the last 20

00:09:58.394 --> 00:10:02.394

Seven years. Um, the slip decision went against that,

00:10:03.643 --> 00:10:09.643

And said federal policy for federal agencies, including HHS, to not have to consider

00:10:09.586 --> 00:10:12.586

The integration of people with disabilities in their communities.

00:10:13.265 --> 00:10:21.265

Coinciding with this, uh, for over a year, Section 504 of the Rehab Act of 1973 has been at risk.

00:10:21.265 --> 00:10:26.210

As you may know, Section 504 of the Rehab Act prohibits

00:10:26.210 --> 00:10:29.564

Discrimination in employment and education based on disability.

00:10:30.318 --> 00:10:40.318

Most recently, the fight against 504 has been put at risk. The right to live and receive services in the community, with several states fighting various regulations

00:10:40.287 --> 00:10:42.287

within Section 504.

00:10:42.288 --> 00:10:52.447

In this fight, Texas, Florida, Alaska, Louisiana, and Montana have filed suit stating that the law did not require them to deliver services in the most integrated setting.

00:10:52.545 --> 00:10:54.545

After the DOJ memo,

00:10:55.575 --> 00:11:05.575

The states and HHS were on the same side of the lawsuit, and as of August 31st, 2026, the states asked the court to strike every reference to community integration

00:11:05.574 --> 00:11:07.609

In Section 504 rules.

00:11:07.836 --> 00:11:11.836

On September 23rd, 2026, the Court ruled in favor,

00:11:12.378 --> 00:11:16.378

struck community integration from Section 504 rules, and closed the case.

00:11:16.756 --> 00:11:21.756

This decision is not just for the states involved in the court case, but states across the country.

00:11:22.523 --> 00:11:27.523

Yesterday, luckily, according to the American Association on Persons with Disabilities,

00:11:27.522 --> 00:11:33.941

There's a bipartisan resolution in the House affirming the rights of people with disabilities to community integration,

00:11:34.901 --> 00:11:40.901

So a bipartisan committee of the Disability Caucus co-chairs, uh, Representative Debbie Dingell

00:11:41.956 --> 00:11:50.956

And Brian Fitzpatrick led this resolution that basically affirms that Olmstead is the intent of Congress, and people should have a right to receive their services in the community,

00:11:50.677 --> 00:11:53.677

And it was co-signed by several Democrats and Republicans.

00:11:54.018 --> 00:12:02.018

Finally, Title II of the ADA requires that all information be accessible to people with disabilities, including digital information,

00:12:03.086 --> 00:12:10.086

Specifically, digital information to the public needs to follow web content accessibility guidelines 2.1 level AA.

00:12:10.408 --> 00:12:17.408

The original deadline, of course, was April 24th, 2026, and we know that that's been extended to April 26, 2027.

00:12:18.016 --> 00:12:26.016

So, together, all three of these situations have made this resolution on the pledge to the rights of people with disabilities in Champaign County even more important.

00:12:26.690 --> 00:12:32.690

The fight for equal access to government information, the right to live in your community,

00:12:32.691 --> 00:12:36.482

And a responsive government that supports them to live, learn, work, and play

00:12:36.852 --> 00:12:43.852

In the community is critical at all levels, but we can work to ensure the rights of disabled people in our communities right here at the local government level.

00:12:44.326 --> 00:12:50.326

So I will now pass the mic to the disability advocates and their support staff to go through the resolution,

00:12:50.326 --> 00:12:55.310

What it means to them, and what it means for us as a community

00:12:55.310 --> 00:12:59.096

Have the discussion.

00:13:00.281 --> 00:13:05.281

Lynn Canfield: Do they... do you all want me to advance the slides for your presentation, or do you want to just...

00:13:05.281 --> 00:13:07.218  
go through it.

00:13:08.314 --> 00:13:12.314  
Kim Bowdry: I think they were hoping we could advance the slides. So if you're willing to do that, thank you.

00:13:12.315 --> 00:13:14.117  
Lynn Canfield: Oh, if... oh, okay, I can do it.

00:13:21.100 --> 00:13:24.100  
Rachel Viscuso: Hi, everyone. Thank you for inviting us to speak with you today.

00:13:24.516 --> 00:13:28.516  
For the past few months, we have been working on this presentation for you.

00:13:28.516 --> 00:13:32.186  
Before we talk about the resolution, we will introduce ourselves.

00:13:32.185 --> 00:13:35.525  
I'm Rachel Viscuso with Community Choices.

00:13:37.192 --> 00:13:40.192  
Lindsey Anderson: My name is Lindsey Anderson with DSC.

00:13:42.043 --> 00:13:46.043  
Edgar Hryhorysak: And my name is Edgar Hryhorysak, and I'm also with Community Choices.

00:13:46.828 --> 00:13:51.828  
Um, I'm gonna pass it to our advocates. If you want to go down one in a row and introduce yourselves.

00:13:52.480 --> 00:13:54.480  
Jen Buoy: I'm... I...

00:13:55.242 --> 00:13:57.242  
Jennifer Buoy, I am with, uh...

00:13:58.182 --> 00:14:00.182  
Community choices, and...

00:14:00.183 --> 00:14:02.492  
I am also with, uh...

00:14:02.545 --> 00:14:10.545  
Other organizations - with PACE, the Center for Independent Living, and the National Alliance for Mental Illness as the assistant treasurer for them.

00:14:11.101 --> 00:14:13.101

So, um...

00:14:13.630 --> 00:14:15.630

And a chair for PACE for...

00:14:16.500 --> 00:14:20.500

Uh, Center for Independent Living for their Advocates for Access group.

So, um...

00:14:22.387 --> 00:14:26.387

I don't know, I've been on the HRA board since it has started.

00:14:30.745 --> 00:14:33.745

Chloe Briskin: Um, I am Chloe Briskin. I...

00:14:34.051 --> 00:14:38.051

I work with both DSC and Community Choices.

00:14:38.292 --> 00:14:42.292

And... yeah, that's pretty much all I have to say about me.

00:14:45.575 --> 00:14:47.575

Jamesa: Hi, my name is Jamesa, and I work with

00:14:47.592 --> 00:14:49.592

With DSC.

00:14:51.913 --> 00:14:53.913

Toby Wood: Hello, my name is Toby Wood.

00:14:54.397 --> 00:14:57.397

I work with Community Choices.

00:15:06.808 --> 00:15:11.808

Taylor Rose: Hi, my name is Taylor Rose. I'm from Community Choices.

00:15:14.861 --> 00:15:21.861

Eric Beasley: My name is Eric Beasley. I'm from QD Choices and human rank advocacy, and also I work at a Home Depot over the past 11 years.

00:15:25.856 --> 00:15:27.856

Rachel Viscuso: Thank you guys for introducing yourselves.

00:15:28.831 --> 00:15:33.831

Before we talk about the resolution, before we talked about the resolution with the advocates,

00:15:34.112 --> 00:15:41.112

We thought it would be helpful to highlight where we are in the process of this movement towards greater disability rights and social acceptance.

00:15:41.408 --> 00:15:45.408

Would you be able to go to the next slide for me?

00:15:50.342 --> 00:15:57.342

Lindsey Anderson: So we use this chart to do that. You can see that step 4 has been highlighted.

00:15:57.320 --> 00:15:59.320

So, step...

00:16:00.314 --> 00:16:02.314

Sorry, my bad, I'm not used to speaking with the mic.

00:16:02.047 --> 00:16:07.047

Step 1 says people with disabilities are discriminated against socially and systemically.

00:16:08.116 --> 00:16:13.116

Then the second step is self-advocates begin to express that they're unhappy with current systems.

00:16:13.923 --> 00:16:17.923

Step 3 groups of self advocates get together and organize a movement for change.

00:16:18.633 --> 00:16:23.633

And we've highlighted step 4, as we believe this is the closest step to where we're at.

00:16:23.671 --> 00:16:25.671

Um, local governments get involved,

00:16:27.221 --> 00:16:29.221

Discussion of formal change begins.

00:16:30.447 --> 00:16:37.447

So we believe that with this resolution, um, DDB has kind of bridged that gap of local government getting involved in this issue.

00:16:37.504 --> 00:16:39.504

Um...

00:16:39.992 --> 00:16:44.992

We wanted to show where this resolution sits in terms of progress. It's not that it's written, and therefore,

00:16:44.884 --> 00:16:48.884

We're done, but that is part of the bigger picture towards change.

00:16:53.493 --> 00:16:55.493

Edgar Hryhorysak: Thank you for switching sides.

00:16:55.533 --> 00:17:04.533

So Self-Advocates associated with the Developmental Services Center and Community Choices expressed what each resolution means to them.

00:17:04.925 --> 00:17:07.925

We went ahead and we asked advocates

00:17:09.196 --> 00:17:16.196

When this statement is true, what does it look and feel like? And then, when this statement is not true, what does that look like?

00:17:17.027 --> 00:17:24.027

So for self-advocates to be able to better interact with the resolution, it was necessary that we broke it down into more accessible language.

00:17:24.433 --> 00:17:28.433

So the following resolutions have been simplified for accessibility.

00:17:38.369 --> 00:17:42.369

Jamesa: Sorry, to be recognized that my condition is a natural

00:17:42.267 --> 00:17:44.267

part of the human experience

00:17:44.642 --> 00:17:46.642

Would it mean to be accepted for who I am.

00:17:47.516 --> 00:17:49.516

It would give me the ability

00:17:49.329 --> 00:17:51.329

So you can contribute.

00:17:51.540 --> 00:17:54.540

to society without needing to change myself.

00:17:55.112 --> 00:17:57.112

Being different would... would...

00:17:57.810 --> 00:18:00.810

Feel like a natural experience.

00:18:00.480 --> 00:18:02.480

And not a negative one.

00:18:03.384 --> 00:18:05.384

A world that accepted my condition

00:18:05.648 --> 00:18:07.648

As natural would be...

00:18:09.135 --> 00:18:11.135

Would be a more loving and patient one.

00:18:17.608 --> 00:18:24.608

Jen Buoy: If my... if my condition were was recognized as a natural part of the human experience,

00:18:24.720 --> 00:18:27.720

It would feel like equality.

00:18:27.990 --> 00:18:30.990  
I would be treated like everyone else.

00:18:31.468 --> 00:18:34.468  
When this isn't seen as true,

00:18:34.953 --> 00:18:37.953  
I'm bullied, discriminated against,

00:18:38.707 --> 00:18:42.707  
And face threats like persecution simply for existing.

00:18:47.199 --> 00:18:51.199  
Eric Beasley: If I had the right to exist as I am,

00:18:51.199 --> 00:18:57.619  
Uh, people would not try to do the church or exclude uh me for being different.

00:18:58.340 --> 00:19:05.340  
I wouldn't have to deal with the strangers staring at, or questioning me for the existence in the public.

00:19:06.056 --> 00:19:14.056  
I'd feel more comfortable being myself, and I'd have a less social anxiety.

00:19:21.540 --> 00:19:31.540  
Toby Wood: Here we go. If people like me had the right to exist as we are, less of us would be depressed or isolated. Communities are stronger when everyone is accepted by those for who they are.

00:19:38.117 --> 00:19:40.117  
Chloe Rose: Being seen... here, Doc.

00:19:42.717 --> 00:19:44.717  
Hmm. I'm sorry.

00:19:46.150 --> 00:19:49.150  
Hey, you little piece of paper.

00:19:49.245 --> 00:19:51.245  
grappling with me.

00:19:52.299 --> 00:19:54.299  
Thank you. Got it. Yes, thank you.

00:19:55.025 --> 00:19:58.025  
Being seen as a valued member,

00:19:58.832 --> 00:20:02.832  
Valued and diverse member of my community looks like

00:20:03.095 --> 00:20:06.095

People listening to what I have to say,

00:20:06.836 --> 00:20:12.836

The way I think differently is seen as valued and not a problem to be solved.

00:20:13.046 --> 00:20:15.046

And what I have...

00:20:15.758 --> 00:20:19.758

To contribute is just as important as everyone else.

00:20:22.433 --> 00:20:24.433

Should I continue?

00:20:25.288 --> 00:20:31.288

Taylor Rose: When I'm not seen as a valued diverse member of my community,

00:20:32.188 --> 00:20:34.188

I'm at risk of being taken

00:20:35.663 --> 00:20:40.663

Advantage of. I'm seen as lazy or stupid,

00:20:41.593 --> 00:20:43.593

Because of my disability.

00:20:44.189 --> 00:20:47.189

When we are valued, our communities

00:20:47.193 --> 00:20:49.193

are stranger.

00:20:52.998 --> 00:20:55.998

Jamesa: If service providers worked with me and people, like,

00:20:56.214 --> 00:20:59.214

me to create and sustain community services,

00:20:59.821 --> 00:21:01.821

Our local services would be better,

00:21:02.502 --> 00:21:04.502

and more accessible to all people.

00:21:04.874 --> 00:21:06.874

I'd have an easier time

00:21:07.405 --> 00:21:10.405

Finding and using local search - resources.

00:21:11.176 --> 00:21:16.176

Local service providers need our input to create opportunities

00:21:16.175 --> 00:21:18.527

For everyone to participate.

00:21:22.297 --> 00:21:27.297

Jen Buoy: I feel understood when service providers listen to my feedback.

00:21:27.713 --> 00:21:32.713

When providers don't seek our input, the services they create

00:21:32.703 --> 00:21:34.703

may not help us at all.

00:21:35.785 --> 00:21:38.785

In a world where people with disabilities are at higher risk

00:21:39.031 --> 00:21:41.031

Of poverty, homelessness,

00:21:41.205 --> 00:21:44.205

and abuse, this lack of care can be

00:21:44.433 --> 00:21:46.433

Violent.

00:22:14.611 --> 00:22:24.611

Eric Beasley: One of the policies are made to input from people with autism and IDD, it improves the

00:22:25.254 --> 00:22:27.254

Our quality of life.

00:22:27.446 --> 00:22:31.446

This is where I see a real change that happened.

00:22:31.565 --> 00:22:33.565

Like, uh, like the ADA.

00:22:34.549 --> 00:22:39.549

Uh, accessible housing vouchers, and equal work opportunities.

00:22:46.178 --> 00:22:54.178

Toby Wood: I'm proud... I am proud to speak up to improve the quality of life in my community. When policymakers do not listen to what I have to say.

00:22:56.944 --> 00:22:58.944

We see policies that discriminate

00:22:59.285 --> 00:23:02.285

And are unhelpful or do more harm than good.

00:23:02.284 --> 00:23:04.267  
Chloe.

00:23:06.939 --> 00:23:08.939  
Chloe Briskin: Thank you, Toby.

00:23:09.774 --> 00:23:11.774  
When I'm proud,

00:23:12.105 --> 00:23:14.105  
I'm proud to speak up.

00:23:14.431 --> 00:23:16.431  
To improve the quality of my...

00:23:16.431 --> 00:23:21.777  
Okay, here we go. When organizations take steps to improve,

00:23:22.729 --> 00:23:24.729  
Accessibility, like using

00:23:25.472 --> 00:23:27.472  
Easy to read language,

00:23:27.941 --> 00:23:29.941  
It's a huge relief for me.

00:23:30.730 --> 00:23:32.730  
I don't want to work.

00:23:33.432 --> 00:23:35.432  
Hard - harder than

00:23:35.492 --> 00:23:37.492  
Everyone knows to get...

00:23:37.715 --> 00:23:39.715  
The information and service that I need.

00:23:44.700 --> 00:23:46.700  
Taylor Rose: Disability people feel...

00:23:47.490 --> 00:23:52.490  
As uh isolated from the rest of the community,

00:23:53.013 --> 00:23:56.013  
When local service are

00:23:55.938 --> 00:23:57.938  
inaccessible.

00:23:58.671 --> 00:24:01.671  
We have the right to take advantage of

00:24:01.816 --> 00:24:04.816

Everything our community had to offer.

00:24:05.595 --> 00:24:07.595

We can only do that if it...

00:24:08.419 --> 00:24:10.419

accessible to us.

00:24:12.647 --> 00:24:16.647

Jamesa: Informing the public about disability rights

00:24:16.911 --> 00:24:18.911

would improve more people

00:24:18.946 --> 00:24:20.946

to be our advocacy.

00:24:21.478 --> 00:24:27.478

We need entire communities on our side to push for the change we need

00:24:27.491 --> 00:24:29.491

nationality.

00:24:30.201 --> 00:24:34.201

Education and understanding are the pillars of acceptance.

00:24:38.624 --> 00:24:40.624

Jen Buoy: When people don't understand us,

00:24:40.853 --> 00:24:42.853

Or, our rights,

00:24:43.038 --> 00:24:46.038

We struggle under their bias.

00:24:46.985 --> 00:24:49.985

We struggle with bullying and discrimination.

00:24:50.724 --> 00:24:54.724

Public education lowers our risk of mistreatment.

00:24:59.922 --> 00:25:08.922

Eric Beasley: a system of care that meets the needs and the goals of people with disabilities is central to allow

00:25:09.190 --> 00:25:14.190

And allowing us an equal opportunity at a good life.

00:25:14.446 --> 00:25:17.446

When we show that this type of a

00:25:18.302 --> 00:25:22.302

Dedication to people with disabilities, everyone benefits.

00:25:25.046 --> 00:25:28.046

Toby Wood: When systems of care do not meet our needs, we feel helpless.

00:25:28.829 --> 00:25:33.829

People with autism and IDD are often vulnerable to things like abuse, homelessness, and poverty. We need

00:25:34.690 --> 00:25:36.690

Systems put in place to protect us

00:25:37.022 --> 00:25:39.022

and better our needs.

00:25:39.315 --> 00:25:41.315

Chloe. Toby Wood: Thanks.

00:25:41.666 --> 00:25:43.666

Thank you. Rachel Viscuso: It's going to be me for a second.

00:25:49.425 --> 00:25:51.425

Thank you, advocates for sharing.

00:25:51.745 --> 00:25:53.745

We'll be moving on with...

00:25:59.021 --> 00:26:03.021

Amazing. We'll move on to our action steps.

00:26:03.438 --> 00:26:12.438

We thank you guys so much for sharing your perspective with us. So far, we have talked about what each of the goals outlined in the resolution

00:26:13.067 --> 00:26:15.067

Mean to the self-advocates here today.

00:26:15.163 --> 00:26:19.163

Next, we want to dig into some of the action items highlighted

00:26:19.162 --> 00:26:22.514

In the resolution, and talk about the suggestions we...

00:26:22.743 --> 00:26:24.743

Our advocates had for moving forward.

00:26:28.095 --> 00:26:32.095

Chloe Briskin: On record. Thank you, Toby, for letting me know I'm next.

00:26:33.937 --> 00:26:35.937

What does it mean?

00:26:36.586 --> 00:26:40.586

What does it mean to make it easier to find

00:26:41.149 --> 00:26:45.149

Resources that the community members can use?

00:26:45.148 --> 00:26:48.105

Here are some ideas that we have.

00:26:49.283 --> 00:26:51.283

Come up with as a group, have...

00:26:52.803 --> 00:26:57.803

One, we can push for more funding for community resource events,

00:26:58.357 --> 00:27:01.357

And host them in accessible locations,

00:27:01.471 --> 00:27:03.471

Like those that can...

00:27:04.303 --> 00:27:06.303

We reached by buses.

00:27:06.909 --> 00:27:08.909

Two, we can...

00:27:09.648 --> 00:27:12.648

Indeed, encourage, thank you.

00:27:13.361 --> 00:27:15.361

Two, we can encourage all

00:27:15.793 --> 00:27:18.793

Local services, service providers, to

00:27:19.188 --> 00:27:21.188

Advanced...

00:27:22.044 --> 00:27:25.044

advertise their accommodations.

00:27:26.032 --> 00:27:28.032

It would be so helpful

00:27:28.785 --> 00:27:30.785

To all of us, if, uh...

00:27:32.157 --> 00:27:34.157

Dent

00:27:34.655 --> 00:27:36.655

If a dentist, or...

00:27:36.870 --> 00:27:38.870

Hairstylist...

00:27:39.035 --> 00:27:43.035

Advised... advertised up front,

00:27:43.359 --> 00:27:47.359

Their accommodations, instead of making us search for them.

00:27:53.951 --> 00:27:58.951

Taylor Rose: The city or local organization could..

00:27:59.324 --> 00:28:01.324

employ disability..

00:28:03.061 --> 00:28:05.061

ambassadors

00:28:04.992 --> 00:28:06.992

Their job would be to

00:28:07.109 --> 00:28:10.109

promote local service and..

00:28:10.399 --> 00:28:14.399

Resource that community offers.

00:28:15.243 --> 00:28:17.243

We could also increase our...

00:28:18.111 --> 00:28:25.111

Adv advertisement and put them everywhere in every format.

00:28:27.097 --> 00:28:33.097

Pamphlet inside business, website, radio ads,

00:28:33.073 --> 00:28:38.073

TV, the newspaper, and even as in public transit.

00:28:42.147 --> 00:28:45.147

Jamesa: When it comes to making local resources available,

00:28:45.823 --> 00:28:50.823

And welcoming to people with autism and I, I mean, IDD,

00:28:51.265 --> 00:28:53.265

We had the following ideas.

00:28:54.517 --> 00:28:57.517

First, we touched on this on the last slide,

00:28:57.518 --> 00:28:59.383

But hosting resource..

00:28:59.436 --> 00:29:05.436

events in accessible locations is a big part of who is able to show up.

00:29:06.418 --> 00:29:10.418  
Choosing central parts of town that are easy to

00:29:10.462 --> 00:29:12.462  
reached by bus is ideal.

00:29:12.826 --> 00:29:14.826  
It would be... it would make a...

00:29:15.254 --> 00:29:17.254  
Huge difference if detailed maps

00:29:17.953 --> 00:29:20.953  
And instructions were shared on how to rea

00:29:21.803 --> 00:29:23.803  
Reach the resource events as well.

00:29:24.818 --> 00:29:27.818  
Information should be shared in multiple different ways.

00:29:28.225 --> 00:29:30.225  
Like, ads on TV,

00:29:30.226 --> 00:29:32.025  
Information and graphics,

00:29:33.156 --> 00:29:35.156  
Or ads on radio,

00:29:35.188 --> 00:29:37.188  
Or written ads.

00:29:37.188 --> 00:29:40.676  
Lastly, that information should be...

00:29:41.397 --> 00:29:43.397  
should all be in simple

00:29:43.361 --> 00:29:45.361  
Plain language.

00:29:45.502 --> 00:29:47.502  
Long paragraphs,

00:29:48.321 --> 00:29:50.321  
full of big words with no spacing

00:29:50.562 --> 00:29:53.562  
are not accessible to many people with

00:29:54.024 --> 00:29:56.024  
Autism and IDD.

00:30:02.238 --> 00:30:08.238

Jen Buoy: How will our community include people with autism and IDD in making decisions

00:30:08.625 --> 00:30:10.625

That involve them.

00:30:11.256 --> 00:30:13.256

We all agreed that plain language

00:30:13.257 --> 00:30:19.600

Is the most important part of including people with autism and IDD in decision making.

00:30:19.993 --> 00:30:21.993

Advertise plainly

00:30:22.839 --> 00:30:29.839

That you like to hear from us in multiple locations, and offer many routes to provide feedback,

00:30:30.236 --> 00:30:32.236

In person, online,

00:30:33.370 --> 00:30:37.370

In writing in - online or by letter - are all options.

00:30:38.160 --> 00:30:43.160

Then, explain clearly the steps to give feedback and the options for doing so.

00:30:44.393 --> 00:30:49.393

Local entreties could create relationships with people with disability,

00:30:49.943 --> 00:30:52.943

Service providers and organizations.

00:30:53.324 --> 00:30:59.324

This would give them more access to feedback from people with autism and IDD.

00:31:04.960 --> 00:31:08.960

Eric Beasley" Here are some of the ideas we had to make a sure the website

00:31:09.121 --> 00:31:14.121

document and documents that are written in plain, accessible language.

00:31:14.959 --> 00:31:17.959

There are a few tools available online, like a

00:31:18.362 --> 00:31:20.362

like a hermiaway

00:31:21.027 --> 00:31:26.027

That will check with the accessibility of, uh,

00:31:26.047 --> 00:31:33.047

Your writing. The reading level of your text should not be greater than a sixth grader.

00:31:33.197 --> 00:31:36.197

People with autism and ADD,

00:31:36.613 --> 00:31:41.613

Uh, they could be hired to convert the information into plain text.

00:31:49.215 --> 00:31:54.215

Toby Wood: Lastly, we talked about how to raise community awareness of accessibility

00:31:54.775 --> 00:31:56.775

and disability issues. Here are our ideas.

00:31:57.714 --> 00:32:01.714

We could create an online resource full of reviews from people with disabilities,

00:32:02.636 --> 00:32:05.636

about local businesses and spaces. These reviews would...

00:32:06.484 --> 00:32:08.484

Share how accessible the space was.

00:32:09.534 --> 00:32:11.534

This would also help other disabled people

00:32:11.396 --> 00:32:14.396

To be informed before they visit.

00:32:14.565 --> 00:32:16.565

The local governments

00:32:16.626 --> 00:32:19.626

would find... could fund public service announcements

00:32:20.351 --> 00:32:25.351

About disability and inclusion. This could include billboards, information graphics,

00:32:25.553 --> 00:32:28.553

or ads on local TV or radio.

00:32:28.806 --> 00:32:30.806

Chloe.

00:32:32.351 --> 00:32:34.351

Chloe Briskin: Thank you again, Toby.

00:32:34.349 --> 00:32:37.349  
Community

00:32:38.166 --> 00:32:42.166  
Hi. Community Choices and DSC work together

00:32:42.962 --> 00:32:44.962  
To run their LEAP program.

00:32:45.035 --> 00:32:48.035  
It encourages...

00:32:49.127 --> 00:32:52.127  
Educate local businesses about

00:32:52.312 --> 00:32:54.312  
The benefits of working with

00:32:54.796 --> 00:32:56.796  
Special needs people.

00:32:57.019 --> 00:33:00.019  
Please keep funding these services.

00:33:02.028 --> 00:33:04.028  
Local environment -

00:33:04.581 --> 00:33:06.581  
Entities could...

00:33:07.013 --> 00:33:09.013  
Hire people with

00:33:09.106 --> 00:33:11.106  
Disabilities to

00:33:12.590 --> 00:33:15.590  
Evaluate them for their...

00:33:15.189 --> 00:33:17.189  
Inclusiveness.

00:33:19.380 --> 00:33:21.380  
Hmm.

00:33:36.800 --> 00:33:41.800  
Lindsey Anderson: Thank you all for coming out. Thank you guys for speaking so eloquently about those issues.

00:33:42.007 --> 00:33:49.007  
I hope that it helped you guys make more sense of the resolution as well, and what we can do to move forward.

00:33:49.776 --> 00:33:54.776

But now we wanted to open the floor if anybody had any questions for the advocates.

00:34:01.201 --> 00:34:04.201

Anne Robin: I just want to thank everybody for their participation

00:34:04.201 --> 00:34:10.383

And you all use the microphone better than a lot of people in this room do, so thank you for that.

00:34:11.811 --> 00:34:16.811

I wish that more people in the community could hear your feedback, so...

00:34:17.492 --> 00:34:20.492

Let's continue to work together to think of ideas to

00:34:21.078 --> 00:34:24.078

Get your ideas out to the larger community.

00:34:27.936 --> 00:34:32.936

Susan Fowler: My name's Susan, and I really appreciate the recommendation on

00:34:33.127 --> 00:34:37.127

making it easier to find resources in the community,

00:34:37.487 --> 00:34:39.487

And particularly, um...

00:34:39.846 --> 00:34:43.846

The innovative idea of encouraging local service providers

00:34:43.853 --> 00:34:47.853

To, um, advertise their accommodations because I've...

00:34:48.757 --> 00:34:50.757

I have found accommodations from a lot of

00:34:52.090 --> 00:34:57.090

Local providers, whether they're pizza places or salons, or the dentist,

00:34:57.370 --> 00:34:59.370

Um, it would be...

00:34:59.369 --> 00:35:02.889

Really nice, though, if it didn't require a mom or a guardian.

00:35:02.886 --> 00:35:05.886

To go in and to make those requests.

00:35:05.886 --> 00:35:07.886

And so, I think...

00:35:08.557 --> 00:35:12.557

Maybe we could do a presentation like this at some point to

00:35:13.584 --> 00:35:18.584

One of the business groups in town, Rotary. I mean, there are a number of civic groups that

00:35:19.113 --> 00:35:23.113

Are involved with local businesses that...

00:35:23.397 --> 00:35:26.397

I think would be responsive to hearing, um,

00:35:26.409 --> 00:35:28.409

Your recommendations.

00:35:28.733 --> 00:35:31.733

And that might be a next step also.

00:35:31.859 --> 00:35:34.859

For getting the information out. So thank you so much.

00:35:37.348 --> 00:35:46.348

Elaine Palencia: Thank you so much. The things that you said are going to go way beyond you and help a lot of other people.

00:35:46.310 --> 00:35:55.310

I was glad that you included physical accessibility, like to places, because

00:35:55.659 --> 00:35:57.659

The information

00:35:58.411 --> 00:36:02.411

Accessibility is very important, but also, you may notice there

00:36:03.283 --> 00:36:06.283

Are public buildings in this community that

00:36:06.737 --> 00:36:10.737

are not accessible to people in wheelchairs. There's no...

00:36:10.735 --> 00:36:12.735

You know, um...

00:36:13.328 --> 00:36:15.328

Pad to touch and make the door open.

00:36:15.806 --> 00:36:20.806

So, um, you've got a lot of work still to do to advocate for lots of different

00:36:21.479 --> 00:36:29.479

issues, and for lots of people, but I really compliment you for being out there, and

00:36:29.480 --> 00:36:32.083  
Bringing this message. Thank you.

00:36:36.356 --> 00:36:41.356  
Jen Straub: I just love the idea of the the website for public reviews of local businesses.

00:36:41.569 --> 00:36:43.569  
I thought that was so insightful.

00:36:43.625 --> 00:36:45.625  
Um...

00:36:46.369 --> 00:36:49.369  
I just... I think that it would provide...

00:36:50.012 --> 00:36:53.012  
Continuous feedback for businesses, not just

00:36:53.546 --> 00:36:55.546  
One time they were very accommodating, but...

00:36:56.094 --> 00:37:02.094  
You know, if people could give reviews all the time, then that would provide just kind of continuous feedback

00:37:02.098 --> 00:37:07.098  
And kind of real-time information for folks looking for different services.

00:37:07.933 --> 00:37:09.933  
Um, or, you know, just to go out to pizza.

00:37:10.331 --> 00:37:12.331  
I thought that was so cool.

00:37:16.712 --> 00:37:18.712  
Jane Sprandel: I actually had...

00:37:18.770 --> 00:37:23.770  
made some questions prior to tonight, and they're not exactly everything that you, um,

00:37:23.758 --> 00:37:25.758  
presented.

00:37:26.367 --> 00:37:28.367  
But the one that I had on here is...

00:37:29.095 --> 00:37:32.095  
You know, there's a system designed to help you.

00:37:32.635 --> 00:37:38.635

Do you feel that it is complicated and often hard to get the answers or services you need?

00:37:39.424 --> 00:37:44.424

And why I ask that is I had the opportunity this spring and summer to help someone

00:37:44.804 --> 00:37:47.804

Who, um, did not have an advocate.

00:37:47.986 --> 00:37:52.986

I don't think she necessarily had ever qualified for an advocate, and I became her advocate.

00:37:54.307 --> 00:37:56.307

Um, I was amazed.

00:37:56.308 --> 00:37:58.250

How difficult it was to

00:37:58.607 --> 00:38:00.607

Get some stuff done.

00:38:00.899 --> 00:38:03.899

Get her on Social Security, get her SNAP.

00:38:04.043 --> 00:38:06.043

Get her a bus pass. I mean,

00:38:06.656 --> 00:38:11.656

The things, and I've... and many of you've met me before, I pride myself on being

00:38:12.086 --> 00:38:17.086

A middle-class white woman with average intelligence, and this was hard work.

00:38:17.654 --> 00:38:20.654

And I... I found it disappointing to me that

00:38:21.639 --> 00:38:24.639

Agencies and even governmental...

00:38:24.532 --> 00:38:26.532

places I was calling and saying,

00:38:27.090 --> 00:38:29.090

Tell me what I need to do. They're like,

00:38:30.491 --> 00:38:32.491

Oh yeah, just do that, click.

00:38:33.691 --> 00:38:36.691

And as the current chair

00:38:36.993 --> 00:38:38.993

of the mental health board,

00:38:39.219 --> 00:38:44.219

I had some experiences with some local agencies that did not sit well with me,

00:38:44.218 --> 00:38:49.116

And I have chosen, in the proper manner, I have talked to some executive directors and said,

00:38:50.233 --> 00:38:53.233

if my friend would have called, she would have never called back,

00:38:53.868 --> 00:38:56.868

But I emailed you and said I have a problem and I need to talk to you.

00:38:57.801 --> 00:39:00.801

And then it was, by the way, I happened to be on the mental health board, and then...

00:39:01.310 --> 00:39:03.310

The tune changed, and that's not how it should be.

00:39:04.463 --> 00:39:06.463

Every person in this room is equal,

00:39:07.065 --> 00:39:12.065

And everybody's needs are important. And so I thank you all so much for...

00:39:12.631 --> 00:39:14.631

You know, opening my eyes, um,

00:39:14.607 --> 00:39:16.607

You know, we talked how...

00:39:17.293 --> 00:39:21.293

What a great asset it would be to know what, maybe, hair salons

00:39:21.294 --> 00:39:23.415

are a little bit more accommodating, whether it be

00:39:24.230 --> 00:39:26.230

If you've got a wheelchair or a walker, or just...

00:39:26.862 --> 00:39:31.862

They don't play really loud music if you're sensitive to music and stuff, so...

00:39:32.041 --> 00:39:36.041

I appreciate all of your time and feedback, and thank you, thank you so much.

00:39:40.109 --> 00:39:45.109

Jen Buoy: So, yeah, for those, uh, accommodations, I think we have in the past, um,

00:39:46.234 --> 00:39:50.234

Tried to work with a U of I professor about restaurants,

00:39:50.838 --> 00:39:52.838

Certain... for, um...

00:39:52.857 --> 00:39:54.857

Here there are...

00:39:55.536 --> 00:40:01.536

You talk about autistic or loud music or stuff, and versus which ones are loud and which...

00:40:01.472 --> 00:40:03.472

What combinations I have.

00:40:04.034 --> 00:40:09.034

But the dash pass, I don't think a lot of people know, were...

00:40:09.247 --> 00:40:12.247

You know, where to go to get help to find one.

00:40:12.873 --> 00:40:17.873

Like, I know, I mean, what organizations you can go to that will help you

00:40:18.797 --> 00:40:21.797

Where to go and look, and that's where, um...

00:40:22.231 --> 00:40:24.231

I signed up to be a...

00:40:24.576 --> 00:40:26.576

Wel - a Welcome Ambassador.

00:40:26.576 --> 00:40:29.477

And that's where I think a lot of people don't know where...

00:40:30.115 --> 00:40:33.115

ago, because I know Pace, there's a lot of organizations...

00:40:33.612 --> 00:40:40.612

You can... but it... you just can't find it and it's also helped, I think a lot of people know.

00:40:41.077 --> 00:40:43.077

It's hard to get in even for, like,

00:40:44.057 --> 00:40:48.057

If you have to go for physical therapy, it's just hard to get an appointment within...

00:40:48.039 --> 00:40:50.039

The timeframe you want,

00:40:50.284 --> 00:40:56.284

It's just... there's a lot of stuff for certain doctors, and...

00:40:56.791 --> 00:41:00.791

I think to some people, for...

00:41:00.801 --> 00:41:02.801

Good, and...

00:41:03.070 --> 00:41:05.070

Uh, it's...

00:41:05.333 --> 00:41:07.333

We just need...

00:41:09.518 --> 00:41:11.518

Oh, okay. Um...

00:41:11.879 --> 00:41:16.879

I was a welcome ambassador. I guess I'm paired up

00:41:17.631 --> 00:41:21.631

With the... as a welcome ambassador, I...

00:41:22.131 --> 00:41:29.131

Was a person with a disability, I pair up with people that are new to town, I guess, that haven't been here, like,

00:41:29.132 --> 00:41:37.132

Uh less than a year, and I - they pair you up, I guess, um, if somebody needs help or anything,

00:41:38.038 --> 00:41:42.038

Wanting to know the resources to where to go for somebody,

00:41:42.513 --> 00:41:45.513

I mean, I have given him...

00:41:46.299 --> 00:41:50.299

I mean, they will pair me up and...

00:41:50.444 --> 00:41:55.444

ask for information from me and email me, or call me, and...

00:41:55.879 --> 00:41:57.879

Something to...

00:41:58.959 --> 00:42:01.959

I can point them in the right direction, where what...

00:42:02.046 --> 00:42:09.046

Um, organizations to help for a dash pass, if they need a personal assistant, personal support worker,

00:42:09.797 --> 00:42:16.797

Or to go, and I think, uh, that's where a lot of people, for what issues the welcome ambassador, for what

00:42:16.999 --> 00:42:18.999

People are looking for...

00:42:19.279 --> 00:42:22.279

Um, what they need...

00:42:22.514 --> 00:42:24.514

They've paired people up with for...

00:42:24.783 --> 00:42:26.783

Um, to meet those, um...

00:42:28.198 --> 00:42:32.198

So if they have a child or adult that has a disability,

00:42:33.075 --> 00:42:36.075

So, that's where I come in.

00:42:36.643 --> 00:42:44.643

Yes. Susan Fowler: Who sponsors the ambassador program or did you start it from scratch or are you working with, is there an agency involved or?

00:42:45.629 --> 00:42:49.629

How did... because I've never heard of the ambassador Program. I think it's a great idea.

00:42:50.772 --> 00:42:52.772

How do people find out about it, and...

00:42:53.192 --> 00:42:55.192

How did you get involved?

00:42:55.789 --> 00:42:58.789

Jen Buoy: Um, well, the county has...

00:42:59.596 --> 00:43:01.596

Started it, um, I...

00:43:02.536 --> 00:43:08.536

Once found out from Community Choices about it, and I'm...

00:43:10.030 --> 00:43:12.030

Ask... and I said, well...

00:43:12.881 --> 00:43:14.881

I could go and...

00:43:15.874 --> 00:43:17.874

Um, they were looking for people

00:43:18.289 --> 00:43:21.289

I guess for disability, in case for this issue,

00:43:22.333 --> 00:43:26.333

For... and I said, okay,

00:43:26.333 --> 00:43:28.692

I'll do it. And...

00:43:29.656 --> 00:43:33.656

So... about quarterly, they have...

00:43:34.915 --> 00:43:36.915

Some kind, like, uh, event.

00:43:37.621 --> 00:43:40.621

Or something to like a meet and greet, too, so that you...

00:43:41.676 --> 00:43:44.676

People can get to know somebody, and...

00:43:45.321 --> 00:43:50.321

Have events, so they get to know the community, get to know what's here,

00:43:50.599 --> 00:43:53.599

What's popular or what's good, and...

00:43:54.643 --> 00:43:57.643

Good to know, um... so, we get to.

00:43:58.248 --> 00:44:00.248

Meet, I come to tell him, like...

00:44:00.247 --> 00:44:03.909

You know, here's what our interests are, and...

00:44:04.154 --> 00:44:06.154

I think, um...

00:44:07.248 --> 00:44:09.248

I have found that out in...

00:44:09.512 --> 00:44:11.512

If you...

00:44:11.627 --> 00:44:14.627

I've gotten emails, and they just...

00:44:15.216 --> 00:44:17.216  
Do it and...

00:44:18.090 --> 00:44:20.090  
So I've...

00:44:20.020 --> 00:44:22.020  
If you go look, probably...

00:44:22.623 --> 00:44:24.623  
I have...

00:44:24.661 --> 00:44:26.661  
Been, uh...

00:44:28.019 --> 00:44:33.019  
doing that for a couple of years now, so...

00:44:33.226 --> 00:44:38.226  
Kim Fisher: Jennifer, can I... I'm over here. Can I just ask you a clarifying question?

00:44:38.991 --> 00:44:41.991  
This is part of, like, the Experience Champaign.

00:44:42.147 --> 00:44:46.147  
Right? Like, it's county-wide,

00:44:46.147 --> 00:44:54.103  
Part of the... no, no, it's not part of Community Choices. You're just... you're just going as a community member.

00:44:54.745 --> 00:44:59.745  
Jen Buoy: Right. Kim Fisher: right. This is, like, countywide. Yeah, Becca, did you want to... Yes, yes. Okay.

00:44:59.935 --> 00:45:02.935  
Jen Buoy: Yeah, it's countywide, so it's not...

00:45:03.281 --> 00:45:09.281  
You know, what they just asked me, uh, asking for people with disabilities if they wanted to, and

00:45:09.984 --> 00:45:16.984  
Um, since I was on the HRA board, I was asked, like, okay, do I want to start? I did it a couple years ago, and I...

00:45:17.852 --> 00:45:20.852  
Fine. I did it, and I'm gonna... I've continued.

00:45:25.744 --> 00:45:27.744  
Hannah Sheets: Sure. So it started with.

00:45:27.738 --> 00:45:29.738

Jen Buoy: Oh, yep. Hanna Sheets: right.

00:45:33.901 --> 00:45:36.901

This is Hannah with Community Choices. Uh, so, Jen, uh...

00:45:37.424 --> 00:45:41.424

It started with experience CU right when we were doing the, um...

00:45:41.693 --> 00:45:45.693

Helping them build their Accessible CU website.

00:45:46.613 --> 00:45:52.613

And then they said, yes, let's get some ambassadors to come and welcome people to the community who might not know about services.

00:45:52.941 --> 00:45:58.941

And so Jen and I both did that for a little bit, and then Jen is just rocking it on her own. Like, I'm not an ambassador anymore,

00:45:59.116 --> 00:46:01.116

Jen is much more social than I am.

00:46:01.669 --> 00:46:05.669

I don't really love talking to tons of people all the time, if you can't tell.

00:46:06.571 --> 00:46:10.571

And so, Jen's awesome at it. Um, Jen goes to all the mixers,

00:46:10.571 --> 00:46:13.783

Is available for folks who want to learn about services, so...

00:46:13.699 --> 00:46:17.699

It started with Community Choices, but now it's just Jen doing it with Experience CU.

00:46:17.689 --> 00:46:19.689

So, it's awesome.

00:46:20.374 --> 00:46:22.374

Anne Robin: Yeah, for those that don't, um...

00:46:22.543 --> 00:46:26.543

Have great familiarity. I've heard of experience champaign.

00:46:27.141 --> 00:46:30.141

But I don't really know too much about it. It's not a governmental

00:46:29.977 --> 00:46:31.977

organization, it's private

00:46:32.254 --> 00:46:34.254

Business organization, so...

00:46:35.070 --> 00:46:38.070

Tell us what it is, and it sounds like this is a really...

00:46:38.723 --> 00:46:44.723

Good way to interact with the community, and there are others that we could do.

00:46:45.354 --> 00:46:47.354

Becca Obuchowski: It's like the tourism board locally.

00:46:53.603 --> 00:46:59.603

Jen Straub: As somebody who has worked in housing advocacy for 9 years in this community, I was really happy

00:46:59.923 --> 00:47:01.923

To hear you all talk about

00:47:02.217 --> 00:47:06.217

The importance of housing choice vouchers and keeping them available.

00:47:06.216 --> 00:47:10.699

I don't think that most of our community or our county

00:47:10.687 --> 00:47:12.687

Understands...

00:47:13.414 --> 00:47:16.414

quite how valuable those are to our community.

00:47:16.782 --> 00:47:18.782

Um, and how much...

00:47:18.645 --> 00:47:21.645

They afford folks on fixed income

00:47:22.336 --> 00:47:25.336

the independence that they deserve.

00:47:26.679 --> 00:47:28.679

I don't think that most people

00:47:28.684 --> 00:47:30.684

Think about...

00:47:31.010 --> 00:47:33.010

How...

00:47:33.453 --> 00:47:36.453

inaccessible market rate rent is

00:47:36.990 --> 00:47:39.990

On Social Security Disability Income,

00:47:39.810 --> 00:47:42.810

So thank you for advocating for that.

00:47:43.651 --> 00:47:45.651

Uh, that makes my heart very happy.

00:47:48.141 --> 00:47:54.141

Jen Buoy: affordable housing. It's not affordable. I don't think around here very much affordable.

00:47:54.252 --> 00:47:58.252

At all, because of the property taxes, that's the number...

00:47:59.124 --> 00:48:04.124

And then that goes into the rent from... and...

00:48:04.597 --> 00:48:11.597

So, I... I just don't think it's affordable, and that's why a lot of people are homeless and in poverty, and then...

00:48:12.105 --> 00:48:18.105

are living, um, with family members, you know, so it's just, like, you can't...

00:48:19.027 --> 00:48:22.027

Afford the rent and the utilities.

00:48:21.919 --> 00:48:24.919

Both all about, um...

00:48:25.456 --> 00:48:27.456

Without having...

00:48:28.445 --> 00:48:32.445

Help from the community, from a voucher, for...

00:48:33.019 --> 00:48:38.019

A grant for whatever organization, or another organization that has a grant with the

00:48:39.059 --> 00:48:41.059

Community or the city, or...

00:48:41.993 --> 00:48:43.993

The Housing Authority, so...

00:48:44.376 --> 00:48:46.376

Yep.

00:48:50.450 --> 00:48:53.450

Eric Beasley: Speaking of housing vouchers.

00:48:54.141 --> 00:48:58.141

Truth be told, I did a housing voucher by Section 8 myself.

00:48:58.888 --> 00:49:07.888

And also, and also what they said in the Section 8 housing, that it's a long list. I mean, a completely long list that lasted for years.

00:49:08.183 --> 00:49:13.183

They get an appointment. Then all of a sudden, about one day or two days later, I was at the top of the list.

00:49:14.308 --> 00:49:18.308

And I'll say, yeah, I mean, we were so lucky for that one.

00:49:18.915 --> 00:49:22.915

The old saying, when I got in the room, in spite of - with all the policies they have,

00:49:23.358 --> 00:49:25.358

Five people

00:49:26.511 --> 00:49:30.511

Got into new places. Only 5 out of the whole citizen town, eh?

00:49:30.511 --> 00:49:32.789

I was looking around. I mean, there were, like,

00:49:34.561 --> 00:49:37.561

I'm not sure they have enough income, or they just got lucky.

00:49:39.621 --> 00:49:43.621

Susan Fowler: There's some luck to it. Can I add to that? Because my son got a housing voucher.

00:49:44.060 --> 00:49:48.060

And he was on the waitlist for 5 or 6 years before he got it.

00:49:48.561 --> 00:49:54.561

Um, and I... we were thrilled, because it does make it possible to live on SSDI.

00:49:55.093 --> 00:50:00.093

Thank God we were on the list. Um, thank God that we noticed that

00:50:00.252 --> 00:50:05.252

They were drawing names on the specific day that they drew names so that we could be accessible

00:50:05.252 --> 00:50:07.250

Jen Straub: Yes. Susan Fowler: And responsive

00:50:07.249 --> 00:50:13.239

And then I found out there were only 90, I think. Um, it may have changed, because it's been about 5 years.

00:50:13.239 --> 00:50:15.479

Only 90 vouchers for the whole county.

00:50:15.927 --> 00:50:18.927

For people with developmental disabilities. So that's...

00:50:19.211 --> 00:50:25.211

Another area for more advocacy, and of course, people with developmental disabilities often can also

00:50:25.843 --> 00:50:28.843

Qualify under low income, because

00:50:29.513 --> 00:50:33.513

If you're surviving on SSDI, you're at 987 a month,

00:50:33.512 --> 00:50:37.410

And that fits low income, but the number of housing vouchers

00:50:38.088 --> 00:50:41.088

Is really limited, and once you get a housing voucher,

00:50:41.598 --> 00:50:44.598

Under disability, as long as you stay in the county,

00:50:45.167 --> 00:50:47.167

You keep it so there's not turnover.

00:50:47.167 --> 00:50:49.986

And that is a big issue that I'm not sure

00:50:50.883 --> 00:50:52.883

Our board has ever looked at or taken under

00:50:53.659 --> 00:50:57.659

advisement. Eric Beasley: Well, if you - a good question for that one.

00:50:58.307 --> 00:51:04.307

I would say, I would say that I do, I take full responsibility on the SSI and SSI for that one.

00:51:04.307 --> 00:51:08.385

Because I pay my rent on time, I pay the utilities on time,

00:51:08.930 --> 00:51:11.930

And I haven't had one complaint, but that's why the landlord

00:51:12.370 --> 00:51:18.370

God bless her soul, and bless the soul that just decided to do the housing voucher that was right next door to it.

00:51:18.629 --> 00:51:20.629

I had a really good landlord, but...

00:51:20.829 --> 00:51:22.829

She passed away, and...

00:51:23.461 --> 00:51:25.461  
Uh, now, and so her husband took over.

00:51:26.312 --> 00:51:31.312  
And then we have, oh my gosh, we saved up a lot of money for that new house. It took...

00:51:31.311 --> 00:51:33.261  
Two of us, my mother and my...

00:51:33.671 --> 00:51:35.671  
myself to get the house.

00:51:35.892 --> 00:51:37.892  
A house, and all of a sudden, I...

00:51:38.364 --> 00:51:40.364  
No, this is a total rip-off, because...

00:51:40.555 --> 00:51:45.555  
Yeah, when I got the, you know, those, those rentals, they pay you back.

00:51:46.472 --> 00:51:49.472  
All of a sudden, they gave me \$1.34

00:51:49.732 --> 00:51:51.732  
Money back.

00:51:52.052 --> 00:51:58.052  
Hey, I... I mean, it was low, because we did the carpet cleaning, but he did the carpet cleaning.

00:51:58.634 --> 00:52:03.634  
Well, of course, we had an accident for those

00:52:04.270 --> 00:52:06.270  
Uh window drawers, but all of a sudden

00:52:07.761 --> 00:52:10.761  
Just, uh, I don't know what he's doing with that money, because...

00:52:11.462 --> 00:52:16.462  
Because I think he's just losing his mind for that one.

00:52:16.599 --> 00:52:19.599  
Because she's the ones doing the bookkeeping.

00:52:23.653 --> 00:52:29.653  
Jen Buoy: With the housing voucher for, like, you only have, like, 60 days to find a place, too.

00:52:30.712 --> 00:52:33.712

And that's, like, hard to do, like,

00:52:34.471 --> 00:52:36.471  
When you don't tell somebody...

00:52:37.655 --> 00:52:39.655  
Up front, beforehand, knowing that the board hasn't...

00:52:39.514 --> 00:52:44.514  
At first, when all the time I got, I'm like, I couldn't find it in that amount of time.

00:52:45.848 --> 00:52:52.848  
Then I lost it, then you had to go back again, and you were probably, like, you gotta have a place in mind before I learn my lesson, before...

00:52:53.049 --> 00:52:57.049  
You have to have a place in mind before you go and apply. It's like...

00:52:57.667 --> 00:53:00.667  
And get somebody, because otherwise...

00:53:01.705 --> 00:53:05.705  
You don't get, and it's like, wow, it's... you can't get...

00:53:06.553 --> 00:53:14.553  
Uh, it's hard to find a place sometimes, just in that timeframe, and still, they would only extend it up to 90 days, and...

00:53:15.338 --> 00:53:20.338  
And then to get, like, if people... there's not enough 2 bedrooms around here,

00:53:21.328 --> 00:53:23.328  
Why would you want one for just...

00:53:23.858 --> 00:53:25.858  
One person, when some...

00:53:26.083 --> 00:53:29.083  
Not just a disability, but...

00:53:29.793 --> 00:53:32.793  
Even my niece, a college-age student,

00:53:32.650 --> 00:53:34.650  
Would say, too, that

00:53:34.696 --> 00:53:37.696  
Uh, to afford the whole rent,

00:53:38.118 --> 00:53:40.118  
She wants a roommate.

00:53:40.311 --> 00:53:43.311

So you can split the rent, split the utilities,

00:53:44.564 --> 00:53:48.564

And it's more affordable that way, but there's not enough two bedrooms.

00:53:48.495 --> 00:53:54.495

And well, I don't know if the... for the housing voucher, they make it hard to qualify

00:53:55.419 --> 00:54:00.419

For a two-bedroom, when you could split the costs with somebody, which would make it...

00:54:00.509 --> 00:54:03.509

More affordable, more easy, and...

00:54:03.886 --> 00:54:06.886

To do that, and some people even...

00:54:08.160 --> 00:54:12.160

Could use the help as a roommate, as a supportive roommate,

00:54:12.160 --> 00:54:17.658

And, uh, or as a personal assistant, or a personal support worker, too.

00:54:18.413 --> 00:54:20.413

As it's like, you could...

00:54:20.412 --> 00:54:22.528

But they don't understand...

00:54:22.428 --> 00:54:27.428

You know, you need those to get more two bedrooms and to let people

00:54:28.290 --> 00:54:30.290

Have, uh, more because...

00:54:30.291 --> 00:54:33.434

It would make it easier and more affordable for

00:54:33.344 --> 00:54:35.344

More two bedrooms.

00:54:39.067 --> 00:54:43.067

Kim Fisher: So this is Kim. I just want to just...

00:54:43.752 --> 00:54:53.752

Say to you all that reading through your slides and just hearing your breakdown of the resolution, what it meant to you, and then the steps,

00:54:54.275 --> 00:55:00.275

Has just been so helpful, and thank you so much for all the work that you all did for this.

00:55:00.274 --> 00:55:03.831

It's made even the resolution more understandable to me.

00:55:04.345 --> 00:55:06.345

Um, and so thank you.

00:55:06.346 --> 00:55:10.030

I wanted to touch on a few things. Um, one,

00:55:11.161 --> 00:55:18.161

What did you feel about the, like, the process of, like, getting the resolution and trying to, you know, get through it?

00:55:18.520 --> 00:55:25.520

And, um, producing information that's easily understandable. Like, how did that process feel?

00:55:25.826 --> 00:55:29.826

Kind of working through the resolution to create these slides and things like that.

00:55:30.415 --> 00:55:34.415

Eric Beasley: Our voices have to be heard, that by the time being.

00:55:35.269 --> 00:55:37.269

Yeah, we just don't want to quit that easy.

00:55:41.507 --> 00:55:48.507

Toby Wood: It was a long, lengthy process to make and complicated as well to make this presentation, but...

00:55:48.675 --> 00:55:50.675

Hopefully it was good.

00:55:51.893 --> 00:55:55.893

Kim Fisher: Yeah, I'm gonna repeat what Dr. Robbins said, it was very good, very good.

00:55:56.531 --> 00:56:02.531

So, um, a couple... I just wanted to touch on a few recommendations just that I kind of connected with.

00:56:02.926 --> 00:56:06.926

One was you all made recommendations for public service announcements,

00:56:07.725 --> 00:56:09.725

About inclusion and things like that.

00:56:10.426 --> 00:56:12.426

I wanted to know more information about that,

00:56:12.425 --> 00:56:17.861

And then the second one was about employing people with disabilities to do plain language and things like that.

00:56:18.481 --> 00:56:20.481

I wanted to know if you guys could touch on

00:56:20.510 --> 00:56:27.510

Your thoughts about that. So, one, the public service announcements, and two, like, the employing people with disabilities to do this work.

00:56:29.809 --> 00:56:35.809

Eric Beasley: To be honest, the employment, uh, because I went through that one before.

00:56:35.911 --> 00:56:42.911

Uh, by first job was at Charleston, which, I don't want to get into that part, because we had to do it as a group.

00:56:44.094 --> 00:56:48.094

And... and also when I left, all of a sudden,

00:56:48.462 --> 00:56:52.462

Also, five other autisms were not doing the bathrooms, which is the hotel cleaning, and...

00:56:52.840 --> 00:56:55.840

They terminated the contract, and then all of a sudden,

00:56:56.292 --> 00:56:59.292

All of a sudden, they said, no, we want to work with real people.

00:57:01.653 --> 00:57:03.653

Yep, they broke the rule for that one.

00:57:03.900 --> 00:57:07.900

So I moved up here, which is...

00:57:08.097 --> 00:57:10.097

Which I think we did a kind of like a...

00:57:11.230 --> 00:57:15.230

Um... kind of like a building, they kind of, like, do disabilities.

00:57:15.507 --> 00:57:19.507

And kind of like to find jobs for them, and also had to work on for...

00:57:20.231 --> 00:57:24.231

Anything I'm good at, and all of a sudden, that's how I got the Home Depot job,

00:57:24.171 --> 00:57:26.171

Well, sort of

00:57:26.340 --> 00:57:31.340

They didn't know what to think about me because I think they had no experience for that one.

00:57:31.951 --> 00:57:35.951

And all of a sudden, they had to do with me a tryout.

00:57:35.792 --> 00:57:40.792

The story was, uh, since they don't know what to think about me, I think they were about to,

00:57:41.677 --> 00:57:46.677

Get the last straw, because it was a garden center.

00:57:47.151 --> 00:57:53.151

And all of a sudden, I just go like this. Well, I might as well check that, you know, one of those selling trash cans.

00:57:54.006 --> 00:57:59.006

And all of a sudden, I would say, kind of, like, scovering around, see if there's any trash, then all of a sudden, one trash can?

00:57:59.247 --> 00:58:02.247

There was a \$95 estimated.

00:58:02.892 --> 00:58:07.892

Uh, in that trash can when I was counting it. It was about to be smuggled out of that store.

00:58:09.093 --> 00:58:11.093

They did. My boss took the picture, and all of a sudden,

00:58:13.054 --> 00:58:16.054

All of a sudden that's how I got the job.

00:58:16.269 --> 00:58:18.269

The.

00:58:18.291 --> 00:58:20.291

And it...

00:58:20.586 --> 00:58:23.586

Oh yeah, that was my first home advantage too.

00:58:24.102 --> 00:58:30.102

And all of a sudden, the guy, the guy that was doing the interviewing.

00:58:30.484 --> 00:58:34.484

And all of a sudden, oh, I hope I don't see anything in the trash can.

00:58:35.407 --> 00:58:37.407

He heard it, and also, you know what I said to him?

00:58:38.495 --> 00:58:40.495

You underestimated me. Jen Straub: Yeah.

00:58:40.295 --> 00:58:45.295

Eric Beasley: Yeah, so all of a sudden all of a sudden, I would say, all of a sudden, I got the job.

00:58:45.930 --> 00:58:47.930

Yeah, it worked, uh, worked a lot of people.

00:58:48.252 --> 00:58:50.252

Customer service that was really well.

00:58:50.381 --> 00:58:53.381

You know, with the base of new coworker friends,

00:58:54.207 --> 00:58:56.207

And also, a lot of coworkers left,

00:58:56.837 --> 00:59:03.837

All of a sudden, it was just I stayed there ever since, and also not a bunch of very good pay.

00:59:04.220 --> 00:59:06.220

My rates got up and up, and...

00:59:06.286 --> 00:59:09.286

And also, it got very good benefits.

00:59:09.290 --> 00:59:11.290

You know, all of a sudden, I just...

00:59:11.947 --> 00:59:17.947

Loved it. Then when I get to let me go that easy, no matter how many times I try to quit, uh...

00:59:18.527 --> 00:59:23.527

Yeah, there were, like, some of my parts of it, but my mom, she said, don't quit.

00:59:23.394 --> 00:59:25.394

And she was right!

00:59:25.662 --> 00:59:27.662

It got better at it. It got better.

00:59:29.845 --> 00:59:34.845

Lindsey Anderson: Thank you for sharing that, Eric. I think that was really enlightening about people with disabilities and their experience in employment.

00:59:37.399 --> 00:59:41.399

So to touch on your questions, Kim,

00:59:43.264 --> 00:59:49.264

So right now we're kind of in a weird spot in the disability system with employment because

00:59:49.635 --> 00:59:56.635

We are transitioning from the piece work that has happened for so long with the Dignity in Pay Act,

00:59:57.624 --> 00:59:59.624

Um, and so...

01:00:00.379 --> 01:00:08.379

you know, a lot of people with disabilities that have been in the system, um, for a long time are used to working in these sheltered workshops.

01:00:08.727 --> 01:00:13.727

And making money via piecework from contracts with factories, um,

01:00:14.802 --> 01:00:19.802

And when the Dignity in Pay Act came, we found that there was kind of a gap in

01:00:20.663 --> 01:00:22.663

You know, people that worked in these sheltered workshops,

01:00:22.847 --> 01:00:28.847

the community wasn't welcoming to them, like, community businesses and employers weren't welcoming.

01:00:29.220 --> 01:00:35.220

And weren't, you know, accepting them to be hired, so they were just kind of out of work.

01:00:36.130 --> 01:00:38.130

And...

01:00:39.292 --> 01:00:41.292

I guess I'm trying to say Eric kind of...

01:00:42.326 --> 01:00:48.326

He kind of painted the picture of what that experience was like. You used to work in group employment,

01:00:48.325 --> 01:00:51.486

And apparently, a hotel in Charleston just...

01:00:52.487 --> 01:00:55.487

Ended the contract. Eric Beasley: Yeah, just flat dead, gone.

01:00:56.056 --> 01:01:01.056

Yeah. They were taking advantage of me on bathrooms. Lindsey Anderson: That's pretty crazy.

01:01:01.588 --> 01:01:06.588

I just wanted to touch on how, um, champaign is kind of like a bubble.

01:01:06.587 --> 01:01:13.095

Like, I have been in this field for 5 years now, and I've worked at 3 different provider agencies, um...

01:01:14.422 --> 01:01:20.422

And... champaign is really the only place that has this sort of county funding that is allowing

01:01:20.924 --> 01:01:26.924

People that are still on the PUNS list to go to a day program or get job coaching, or live in the community,

01:01:26.904 --> 01:01:30.904

And so many other counties are struggling really

01:01:31.301 --> 01:01:34.301

Badly with that, um, you know, the state...

01:01:34.302 --> 01:01:37.489

says you have all these service options, but then...

01:01:37.690 --> 01:01:41.690

You know, they don't have the resources to really make it happen anywhere.

01:01:41.695 --> 01:01:43.695

Um...

01:01:44.944 --> 01:01:53.944

And so I just want to tell you guys how grateful we are to have you, um, and that you have created a space for them to talk and tell you their experiences, and that...

01:01:54.369 --> 01:01:57.369

We can hopefully collaborate in the future to spread this message

01:01:57.366 --> 01:01:59.366

Through our community, um...

01:02:00.821 --> 01:02:06.821

And the idea for hiring people for plain language came from Jen, actually, when she

01:02:07.363 --> 01:02:11.363

She made the idea about having an ambassador, um, to, like,

01:02:11.609 --> 01:02:15.609

Local entities could hire people with disabilities to,

01:02:16.069 --> 01:02:19.069

advertise their accommodations to the community.

01:02:19.042 --> 01:02:21.042

And we were like,

01:02:21.403 --> 01:02:35.403

Oh, yeah, you could also make plain language documents for local businesses. And I thought that was a really good idea. Jen Buoy: Yeah, so, uh, it's not just plain language, but it's also for doctors. When you go for doctors' appointments to understand and

01:02:35.528 --> 01:02:38.528

Also, um, employment...

01:02:39.809 --> 01:02:41.809

To make something simple so you can...

01:02:42.326 --> 01:02:47.326

Just like when you go for a doctor's appointment, you need to... same for when you

01:02:47.860 --> 01:02:53.860

are employed to have it written in simple, plain language to... so that you can understand

01:02:54.886 --> 01:02:57.886

And if your reading comprehension, you know,

01:02:58.581 --> 01:03:03.581

Isn't... the best, but it's like, so somebody, like, if you...

01:03:04.565 --> 01:03:08.565

Ask our... for them to be patient with you, to...

01:03:08.737 --> 01:03:13.737

Say, uh, I don't understand, can you explain it?

01:03:14.726 --> 01:03:16.726

Or... I need some...

01:03:17.434 --> 01:03:25.434

I don't know, I need time to think about it, you know, I... to make a decision, I need some time to think about, to make a decision.

01:03:26.155 --> 01:03:28.155

You know, if they...

01:03:28.170 --> 01:03:31.170

But also, I've had experience in...

01:03:31.620 --> 01:03:34.620

Good and bad experience about...

01:03:35.078 --> 01:03:44.078

People with disabilities, especially from people that have had seizures, have gotten fired for people just for...

01:03:44.656 --> 01:03:47.656

Having one on the job, and then they say,

01:03:48.149 --> 01:03:50.149

You're fired!

01:03:50.149 --> 01:03:57.075

Yeah. And so, that's just beyond... it's not... it's just uncalled for. I've had from...

01:03:57.908 --> 01:04:05.908

Our first initial, like, but still people are able to continue even after one, and it's...

01:04:06.090 --> 01:04:08.090

Uh, but...

01:04:09.892 --> 01:04:15.892

We're capable, but maybe we're not capable of working full-time, but just part-time.

01:04:16.428 --> 01:04:23.428

And I don't think, uh, now the work requirement for Social Security and stuff, I don't know.

01:04:24.589 --> 01:04:30.589

Some people, based upon their age, might be able to meet that, but then some people

01:04:31.063 --> 01:04:36.063

I mean, I... it's just like the... what they consider now the able-bodied...

01:04:37.219 --> 01:04:39.219

It's so... I...

01:04:39.219 --> 01:04:44.697

Yeah, to work for accommodating and having a good job coach,

01:04:44.821 --> 01:04:46.821

To one...

01:04:47.266 --> 01:04:50.266

I think somebody asked me about job coaching,

01:04:52.192 --> 01:04:54.192

To find the job in the community.

01:04:53.970 --> 01:04:55.970

That I like...

01:04:56.119 --> 01:04:58.119

That I'm capable of doing...

01:04:58.815 --> 01:05:04.815

And would want to continue, and I get a company that you're gonna get along with your coworkers and your boss.

01:05:05.007 --> 01:05:07.007  
And it's a safe environment.

01:05:08.099 --> 01:05:11.099  
These are, like, what you are looking for in...

01:05:11.950 --> 01:05:15.950  
That you're not gonna lose your benefits by making

01:05:16.372 --> 01:05:21.372  
That they're aware of that you're not going to lose your Social Security benefits and all that, so...

01:05:21.485 --> 01:05:24.485  
To make it within what you can...

01:05:24.930 --> 01:05:26.930  
Earn, and the time frame,

01:05:27.056 --> 01:05:30.056  
And... to have enough people,

01:05:30.970 --> 01:05:37.970  
That are - you're not going to be there with co-workers that are possibly bullying you or making fun of you or...

01:05:38.969 --> 01:05:41.969  
Expecting you to then do more and more, it's like...

01:05:43.209 --> 01:05:45.209  
No, uh, I've had...

01:05:45.209 --> 01:05:47.230  
Too many, um...

01:05:47.899 --> 01:05:54.899  
Yeah, it's for people, job coaches don't always understand. Sometimes they do.

01:05:55.232 --> 01:05:57.232  
But then... I've...

01:05:58.282 --> 01:06:04.282  
If they do, and then it's been successful, but if they don't, then it hasn't been successful, and they're upset,

01:06:04.282 --> 01:06:08.855  
Then you end up getting fired and losing his job, having to start all over.

01:06:13.433 --> 01:06:15.433

Chloe Briskin: Actually, I would actually like to...

01:06:15.724 --> 01:06:20.724

Speak on a, uh, continuing with its theme of jobs, but...

01:06:20.923 --> 01:06:23.923

I would like to speak from the angle of someone who has

01:06:24.081 --> 01:06:28.081

A small freelance business. I actually have...

01:06:29.223 --> 01:06:32.223

Started... well, it's more of a coincidence of sorts.

01:06:32.108 --> 01:06:37.108

So, a few years back, when I was doing, like, middle school, high school, I don't remember when this started,

01:06:37.759 --> 01:06:41.759

A neighbor on my cul-de-sac, it asks me to water her plants.

01:06:41.727 --> 01:06:43.727

And for a few years,

01:06:44.457 --> 01:06:47.457

It was just me wanting this one neighbor's plants.

01:06:47.661 --> 01:06:52.661

This past year, though, she has recommended me to several people,

01:06:52.845 --> 01:06:54.845

And now I've gone from...

01:06:54.734 --> 01:06:56.734

Having, um...

01:06:56.900 --> 01:06:59.900

a pickup job with just one person to...

01:07:00.362 --> 01:07:03.362

Kind of starting a small business, and...

01:07:03.703 --> 01:07:08.703

I'm trying to navigate now, well, I only have, like, 5 households right now, but...

01:07:09.371 --> 01:07:12.371

What I'm trying to do right now, before things get too big,

01:07:12.387 --> 01:07:14.387

Trying to think ahead.

01:07:15.065 --> 01:07:18.065

How do I handle my taxes? I mean, I'm still in my opinion, but...

01:07:18.794 --> 01:07:20.794

How am I going to handle my taxes, and...

01:07:20.618 --> 01:07:26.618

Um, do all the stuff involving, like, business taxes as a freelance business owner,

01:07:26.856 --> 01:07:29.856

With - as someone with special needs, because

01:07:30.735 --> 01:07:33.735

I only... I never really expected this to go from...

01:07:34.667 --> 01:07:38.667

One person occasionally asking me to water plants to have a...

01:07:39.326 --> 01:07:41.326

5 households where I'm now...

01:07:41.577 --> 01:07:44.577

Watering plants, um, weeding,

01:07:45.493 --> 01:07:49.493

deadheading plants, and so this may continue to expand.

01:07:50.406 --> 01:07:52.406

So, because this was kind of...

01:07:53.489 --> 01:07:56.489

Out of the blue, I'm very having to quickly restructure

01:07:57.400 --> 01:08:03.400

And it's like, okay, I would like a service to that - walk me through step-by-step.

01:08:03.401 --> 01:08:06.344

Here's how you file your business taxes as they...

01:08:06.821 --> 01:08:09.821

Freelance business portion, and it's like...

01:08:10.055 --> 01:08:14.055

We tend to be expected to know that not even as someone without

01:08:14.940 --> 01:08:16.940

Even with someone without disabilities should not just...

01:08:17.099 --> 01:08:19.099

How did you do that?

01:08:19.993 --> 01:08:22.993

How'd I put this? We should find a way to get...

01:08:23.786 --> 01:08:25.786

To easily find websites that tell somebody to...

01:08:26.540 --> 01:08:30.540

Forced to do this when you talk to, then you do this when you put the tax in, and then, like...

01:08:31.260 --> 01:08:35.260

Had the resources and resources to be able to do that.

01:08:35.895 --> 01:08:38.895

And what happened when my...

01:08:39.604 --> 01:08:42.604

small business becomes full-time and I get.

01:08:42.573 --> 01:08:45.573

Over \$2,000 because of the...

01:08:45.609 --> 01:08:47.609

puns, and...

01:08:47.898 --> 01:08:49.898

the ABLE account? Yes.

01:08:50.251 --> 01:08:52.251

I mean, in my specific case,

01:08:52.288 --> 01:08:54.288

And I'm not trying to...

01:08:55.071 --> 01:09:00.071

I'm not trying to say I don't have a disability, but I'm in a unique position where I'm high-functioning enough where

01:09:00.476 --> 01:09:05.476

In theory, if I want to lose my benefits, I would in theory, be okay, but...

01:09:05.432 --> 01:09:12.432

If I didn't... if I wasn't so high functioning, if I made over \$2,000 but still needed those resources,

01:09:12.600 --> 01:09:14.600

This would be a bigger problem,

01:09:15.547 --> 01:09:17.547

The reason I bring this up is because

01:09:17.691 --> 01:09:21.691

Um, it's one thing to have an employer,

01:09:22.705 --> 01:09:24.705

It's another thing when you are the one...

01:09:24.730 --> 01:09:28.730

Starting and owning the business and doing all that stuff, so...

01:09:29.861 --> 01:09:33.861

Addressing this from a freelance or business owner angle is a whole  
nother

01:09:33.645 --> 01:09:35.645

Story entirely.

01:09:36.094 --> 01:09:38.094

I just wanted to bring that up as a...

01:09:38.972 --> 01:09:40.972

Small business owner with special needs.

01:09:42.906 --> 01:09:46.906

Jane Sprandel: I think the word that came to me while you were speaking

01:09:47.577 --> 01:09:50.577

legislation, legislation, legislation.

01:09:50.928 --> 01:09:52.928

You know...

01:09:53.141 --> 01:10:02.141

Well, again, I just, you know, we vote people, we pay people to do what's  
best for the people, and it's not happening.

01:10:02.142 --> 01:10:04.482

you know, like, you're like, how do I do this?

01:10:05.199 --> 01:10:08.199

Um, you... there's people in this room who I've asked.

01:10:08.199 --> 01:10:12.087

How do I spend down some money so she still qualifies?

01:10:12.866 --> 01:10:17.866

I have lots of ideas on how to illegally do it, but no one can tell me  
honest ways I can

01:10:17.971 --> 01:10:21.971

spend down some money for my person can still get the needs she wants.

01:10:22.715 --> 01:10:25.715

My sister, thankfully, is extremely high functioning.

01:10:25.653 --> 01:10:28.653

But as she ages, her cerebral palsy is getting worse.

01:10:28.860 --> 01:10:32.860

We were denied disability because, oh, you still work full time.

01:10:33.099 --> 01:10:39.099

I'm not going to tell my sister, who's socially and physically needs to get out of the house and do stuff.

01:10:39.492 --> 01:10:43.492

You need to quit your job, just so we know somewhere down the line,

01:10:43.717 --> 01:10:48.717

You'll still have housing and things like that. I'm a planner, and she currently lives with my father, and

01:10:49.252 --> 01:10:54.252

You know, after 79 comes 80, and I just I'm trying to plan for the future, and

01:10:55.176 --> 01:10:59.176

Again, that's something in my spare time that I never have.

01:10:59.176 --> 01:11:03.926

I need to get on some of my local legislators and be like, how backwards is this?

01:11:05.105 --> 01:11:09.105

I'm just asking to have her in the system. I'm not asking you to pay her medical right now.

01:11:08.878 --> 01:11:10.878

I'm not asking you to pay.

01:11:11.827 --> 01:11:15.827

food, nothing. I just want to have her on the list. And we're on a PUNS list, but...

01:11:15.930 --> 01:11:18.930

you know, whenever you get that call,

01:11:19.447 --> 01:11:22.447

Well, you've only been on it two and a half years, and I'm like...

01:11:22.696 --> 01:11:24.696

And even someone said to me the other day,

01:11:25.389 --> 01:11:27.389

Well, the best case for you would be,

01:11:27.527 --> 01:11:33.527

is when your dad passes, then you're in crisis mode. I'm like, that is not the best scenario for me.

01:11:36.257 --> 01:11:40.257

Chloe Briskin: Like as someone else who is extremely high functioning, that's what I'm saying.

01:11:40.257 --> 01:11:43.049

I may be okay if I lose my benefits.

01:11:43.532 --> 01:11:50.532

But that might be okay for, like, I've been telling maybe in my 50s, but what happens if I become 60 or something

01:11:50.533 --> 01:11:53.660

And I need to go back on benefits, that's what I'm saying, like,

01:11:54.069 --> 01:11:58.069

Look, it's not the end of the world for me if we go with the \$2,000 line,

01:11:58.107 --> 01:12:01.107

Current tense, but what about future tense?

01:12:01.196 --> 01:12:04.196

If that makes sense. I...

01:12:04.577 --> 01:12:07.577

Should I have benefits in place, like have them...

01:12:07.869 --> 01:12:10.869

Is it better have them and not need them, than to need them and not have them?

01:12:11.082 --> 01:12:23.082

Or is that occasion of, oh, you're clogging up services for people who could use them right now? There's that whole argument on top of that. Yeah. So I decided to put out as someone who is extremely functioning,

01:12:24.112 --> 01:12:30.112

Who could present tense handle not needing services? Should I have to go back

01:12:30.177 --> 01:12:33.177

into the beginning, and how to start the whole project over again.

01:12:34.017 --> 01:12:37.017

Just checking your choices again in the future. That's my...

01:12:37.489 --> 01:12:40.489

Because I don't feel like I should have to do that, if that makes sense.

01:12:43.134 --> 01:12:47.134

I would like to have my services all the way through my life in the off-chance I need them, I should be able to go over to...

01:12:47.525 --> 01:12:52.525

I cannot have that limit of \$2,000 just to see... just to keep my benefits.

01:12:52.851 --> 01:12:55.851

I should not have to have an ABLE account just to keep my benefits.

01:12:55.972 --> 01:12:59.972

I should be able to make as much money as a non-special needs person

01:13:00.086 --> 01:13:02.086

And still keep my benefits.

01:13:03.633 --> 01:13:10.633

That is the root of my situation, of everyone's situation. We are not they able to talk about, I'm just saying that.

01:13:10.483 --> 01:13:13.483

Um, they should be used as a last resort, if that makes sense.

01:13:13.606 --> 01:13:20.606

The baseline should absolutely be, we can make as much money as we want without the risk of losing our services and have

01:13:20.770 --> 01:13:23.770

ABLE accounts as an emergency backup,

01:13:24.869 --> 01:13:28.869

not get rid of them. Keep them, but do not have them be the default.

01:13:29.631 --> 01:13:35.631

Um, so, yeah. Yeah, yes, real quick, Jennifer, and then I'm gonna hit Lynn, as Lynn has... go ahead, Jennifer.

01:13:36.597 --> 01:13:46.597

Jen Buoy: As for parents, like you said, like, I was told one time for the punch, like you parents had to be over 75 to be at the top of the list. It's just how crazy -

01:13:47.408 --> 01:13:49.408

Or a parent pass, you know,

01:13:49.408 --> 01:13:51.361

It's just like until...

01:13:52.301 --> 01:13:57.301

My mom is like, I... when you needed it for the future, when you don't...

01:13:57.301 --> 01:14:01.506

And it's like, until my mom turned 75, I wasn't...

01:14:01.616 --> 01:14:04.616

You know, at the bottom of the list, you know, when you're trying...

01:14:04.793 --> 01:14:06.793

It's crazy, until...

01:14:07.069 --> 01:14:09.069

Um, but...

01:14:09.224 --> 01:14:14.224

It's - define the future, like you say,

01:14:15.620 --> 01:14:17.620

Uh, what is it gonna be

01:14:18.211 --> 01:14:22.211

when a lot of times I would say,

01:14:22.806 --> 01:14:24.806

When something happened to Mom, I know,

01:14:25.598 --> 01:14:30.598

You gotta find, but people don't understand, and to not lose your...

01:14:31.940 --> 01:14:34.940

People don't want to lose their benefits, and...

01:14:35.312 --> 01:14:37.312

For working...

01:14:38.266 --> 01:14:43.266

To be able to live in the community, but I can still... but also hiring somebody,

01:14:43.207 --> 01:14:45.207

Like, even...

01:14:46.095 --> 01:14:48.095

Now it's just for a small business like her own,

01:14:49.081 --> 01:14:54.081

There's people that have to hire people for a personal assistant and a personal support worker,

01:14:54.330 --> 01:14:57.330

You know, doing all the paperwork, I mean...

01:14:59.124 --> 01:15:04.124

It takes time to learn all, to do all that stuff, and do all that, and...

01:15:04.220 --> 01:15:06.220

How to do all that, and...

01:15:06.219 --> 01:15:08.965

When you switch roles, and...

01:15:09.736 --> 01:15:12.736

Uh, that's where a lot of times, like,

01:15:13.369 --> 01:15:17.369

SDA services, and for somebody to teach you, or...

01:15:18.329 --> 01:15:20.329

Or an organization that, um...

01:15:21.069 --> 01:15:24.069

Would we help you to work through you and it...

01:15:24.853 --> 01:15:26.853

It takes time to learn all that, and the...

01:15:27.606 --> 01:15:29.606

I think it's, uh...

01:15:29.613 --> 01:15:31.613

Helpful for...

01:15:32.554 --> 01:15:36.554

people, and then not to lose your benefits, but people aren't understanding for...

01:15:36.529 --> 01:15:40.529

Uh, we need to plan for the future, too, when our parents get older,

01:15:41.059 --> 01:15:45.059

And what's going to happen, but we don't want to lose our benefits, and...

01:15:45.335 --> 01:15:47.335

Need help.

01:15:48.172 --> 01:15:50.172

Kim Fisher: Thanks. Uh, Lynn.

01:15:50.172 --> 01:15:50.359

Thank you!

01:15:50.795 --> 01:15:56.795

Lynn Canfield: Well, I have a maybe it's two questions, or maybe it's a big question for you guys.

01:15:57.252 --> 01:16:00.252

And then a comment which I could save for later.

01:16:01.045 --> 01:16:04.045

But so, like, thank you for sharing all these ideas.

01:16:06.613 --> 01:16:10.613

You guys probably... do you remember They Deserve More? Are you aware of

01:16:10.985 --> 01:16:14.985

That group? They worked pretty hard over the last few years,

01:16:15.789 --> 01:16:18.789

Just on one really kind of small issue, which is

01:16:18.786 --> 01:16:21.786

The pay for direct support professionals.

01:16:22.042 --> 01:16:24.042

So they had a victory,

01:16:24.754 --> 01:16:27.754

like a big policy victory, maybe two victories in a row, and

01:16:28.633 --> 01:16:32.633

But just like, it's an enormous group of people doing lots of PSAs and

01:16:32.862 --> 01:16:36.862

public campaigns, really great stuff.

01:16:36.987 --> 01:16:40.987

But just watching that over the last few years, how much work

01:16:40.903 --> 01:16:42.903

Those people put into

01:16:43.132 --> 01:16:45.132

A small policy change.

01:16:45.133 --> 01:16:47.100

So when you guys are talking about

01:16:47.838 --> 01:16:52.838

You're... you come to us today as like big systems thinkers. You're thinking about

01:16:53.016 --> 01:16:57.016

The big picture. And you're talking about things that make so much sense.

01:16:57.506 --> 01:17:00.506

Like, some policy advocacy, even local or bigger.

01:17:00.490 --> 01:17:02.490

And creating PSAs.

01:17:03.421 --> 01:17:06.421

And then helping everybody get the plain language

01:17:06.232 --> 01:17:11.232

approach, you know, which I think none of us are really doing very well, so we do need help.

01:17:11.231 --> 01:17:14.214

So those are really great workable ideas.

01:17:14.214 --> 01:17:19.619

But I also want to recognize that just because you identified these as like important next steps.

01:17:20.110 --> 01:17:23.110

You might not be the people who want to do these things, so.

01:17:23.859 --> 01:17:25.859

My question is, are you interested

01:17:26.426 --> 01:17:30.426

in working on any of these ideas that you've presented,

01:17:30.441 --> 01:17:32.441

To us, like, kind of...

01:17:33.395 --> 01:17:40.395

moving them forward, or would you rather check in with us in a year or so to see if we've made progress or know of progress?

01:17:40.395 --> 01:17:43.395

Or maybe you haven't talked about that yet, but I just.

01:17:44.658 --> 01:17:49.658

You know, sometimes people don't have the energy to do, like, everything. They know what needs to be done and

01:17:49.908 --> 01:17:52.908

It's so wonderful that you all took the time to come and tell us.

01:17:53.388 --> 01:17:57.388

And that's enough, but if you're interested in helping move any of it forward,

01:17:57.668 --> 01:18:00.668

I would I would love to hear about that.

01:18:03.882 --> 01:18:05.882

Eric Beasley: Well, moving forward, you mentioned about moving forward.

01:18:06.861 --> 01:18:12.861

Uh, well, actually, I was thinking, like, uh, I was thinking, like, uh, we've been working on some new ideas on that one.

01:18:13.301 --> 01:18:16.301

I'll watch in future wise on that one.

01:18:16.427 --> 01:18:22.427

Well, in my future wise, I would say make it an employee core, employment disability course.

01:18:22.633 --> 01:18:27.633

You know, kind of like they... kind of like they make a course of it, like a class that you had to use

01:18:28.385 --> 01:18:34.385

So we can organize, so we can organize people there with the kind of get an experience of disabilities.

01:18:34.662 --> 01:18:40.662

Like, history, or history, or what kind of problems they had in their disabilities, or what they'd done in their backs,

01:18:40.701 --> 01:18:43.701

And to make them threatening, and even a...

01:18:44.681 --> 01:18:48.681

If you're a nearby employee, a nearby employee that disrespects a disability,

01:18:48.411 --> 01:18:50.411

Even they struggle,

01:18:50.884 --> 01:18:53.884

That is a huge problem we're discussing.

01:18:55.086 --> 01:18:57.086

That's just my part.

01:19:02.301 --> 01:19:07.301

Jen Buoy: Yeah, and moving forward for the future, I'd be interested in, you know, moving...

01:19:07.290 --> 01:19:10.290

You know, you feature the...

01:19:11.583 --> 01:19:13.583

For the housing...

01:19:13.859 --> 01:19:15.859

You know, but it's like...

01:19:16.893 --> 01:19:19.893

I think a lot. I don't know...

01:19:20.619 --> 01:19:22.619

It's been talked a lot, but...

01:19:23.567 --> 01:19:25.567

I don't know, um...

01:19:25.944 --> 01:19:27.944

How much stuff would you, like...

01:19:27.934 --> 01:19:29.934

Presenting...

01:19:30.339 --> 01:19:32.339

Um, for...

01:19:32.956 --> 01:19:34.956

A county board, or would you...

01:19:35.387 --> 01:19:37.387

Have more of these meetings, like...

01:19:38.191 --> 01:19:40.191

More times, accessible for...

01:19:41.238 --> 01:19:47.238

Online meetings, more available times, so that more people can come, or I don't know.

01:19:48.343 --> 01:19:50.343

And... to do

01:19:51.096 --> 01:19:53.096

Um, more surveys, uh...

01:19:53.428 --> 01:19:56.428

As a share of an advocacy group, I mean...

01:19:56.738 --> 01:19:58.738

Uh, it's.

01:19:59.561 --> 01:20:01.561

What I'm thinking about.

01:20:01.561 --> 01:20:03.059

Okay.

01:20:03.449 --> 01:20:09.449

Lynn Canfield: So you could... you all would be... some of you would be willing to work with us on some details about what could happen next.

01:20:09.843 --> 01:20:14.843

I think a lot of the ideas that you've presented really reach out much more broadly

01:20:15.719 --> 01:20:17.719

than, like, then our little team.

01:20:17.706 --> 01:20:24.706

So I really like your ideas. And then I have a comment for you at some point, a little bit later.

01:20:24.706 --> 01:20:30.524

Same.

01:20:30.524 --> 01:20:31.625

Kim Fisher: You can say it now, Lynn.

01:20:31.625 --> 01:20:34.938

Lynn Canfield: Well, okay, we've been, you know, sponsoring films

01:20:34.764 --> 01:20:38.764

that challenge stigma and discrimination for many, many years.

01:20:39.603 --> 01:20:43.603

And we were mostly doing that through the Ebert Fest, which doesn't exist any longer.

01:20:43.614 --> 01:20:48.614

But now there's... the Chambana Film Society is having.

01:20:49.147 --> 01:20:56.147

An annual large festival, and then they're starting to have, like, miniature festivals. So next weekend, on Saturday.

01:20:56.619 --> 01:20:59.619

If you go down to the Savoy 16 at 3:30,

01:21:00.032 --> 01:21:03.032

We're sponsoring two films for \$1,

01:21:03.560 --> 01:21:06.560

in their... in their documentary festival.

01:21:07.467 --> 01:21:11.467

And one of the films is - the short film is about a person

01:21:11.466 --> 01:21:14.731

who acquired a disability in his life, and he's

01:21:15.405 --> 01:21:21.405

Talking about that experience. The longer film is about a man, like, a lot of the things you've been talking about

01:21:22.165 --> 01:21:24.165

happened to this man. This is a documentary

01:21:25.128 --> 01:21:28.128

about the life of someone who changed his name to Joybubbles.

01:21:28.129 --> 01:21:30.915

And he did some things in his life.

01:21:31.555 --> 01:21:35.555

That affect all of us, but if he wasn't disabled,

01:21:35.572 --> 01:21:40.572

You know, one of the people talking in the documentary says, if he wasn't disabled, he would be a billionaire.

01:21:40.661 --> 01:21:45.661

Or he would have been a billionaire. But we don't even know about this guy, so

01:21:46.140 --> 01:21:49.140

It's a really fascinating movie and like he's

01:21:49.407 --> 01:21:53.407

Really, he's a really positive, amazing person, so

01:21:53.407 --> 01:22:00.404

If you can, if you can get over to the Savoy 16, I'd like to hear what y'all think about this type of film.

01:22:00.832 --> 01:22:03.832

If anybody goes to see these two films,

01:22:04.720 --> 01:22:07.720

I would like to get your feedback someday about what you think about them.

01:22:08.589 --> 01:22:12.589

Because the Chambana Film Society is already

01:22:12.688 --> 01:22:16.688

trying... they're planning to do a film about a lady who has an

01:22:17.301 --> 01:22:23.301

IDD, and they want to show it in November. So, they're getting very excited about our cause.

01:22:23.301 --> 01:22:29.048

So I'd love to know if this matters to you all, or if you think this helps with community awareness. That was my comment.

01:22:31.599 --> 01:22:39.599

Kim Bowdry: We have some pamphlets and flyers on the table with all the snacks, so if you want to grab a snack on your way out, grab a flyer with the movie schedule, too.

01:22:42.670 --> 01:22:50.670

Jen Buoy: But yeah, didn't they used to, I know the National Alliance for Mental Illness used to sponsor one for the Ebert Fest too.

01:22:50.420 --> 01:22:52.420

And...

01:22:53.529 --> 01:22:56.529

That was for people with disabilities in...

01:22:57.205 --> 01:22:59.205

Yeah, now it's... sad it's...

01:22:59.965 --> 01:23:01.965

Discontinued, but there are...

01:23:02.385 --> 01:23:04.385

I don't know how to get, uh...

01:23:05.428 --> 01:23:09.428

I know there's... from the NAMI on campus,

01:23:10.417 --> 01:23:12.417

Uh, when they have little..

01:23:12.418 --> 01:23:14.469

Lynn Canfield: That was my comment.

01:23:14.469 --> 01:23:19.443

Jen Buoy: But it's not, uh, the word out there for movies for people with disabilities isn't popular now.

01:23:19.442 --> 01:23:23.702

Lynn Canfield: So, Jen, Jen, they were, NAMI was doing that with us. They were part of, they were one of our members.

01:23:24.019 --> 01:23:26.019

Jen Buoy: Mmm.

01:23:24.674 --> 01:23:28.674

Lynn Canfield: So they're waiting, they're waiting right with us to see how this works out.

01:23:29.313 --> 01:23:32.313

Jen Buoy: They're awaiting it to work out, okay?

01:23:32.535 --> 01:23:34.535

Yeah.

01:23:34.536 --> 01:23:38.035

Lynn Canfield: To see if... to see if it works, if we all like it. So you, you are absolutely right, NAMI has been involved and they're

01:23:38.611 --> 01:23:41.611

Part of this and I hope to hear from them too about what they think.

01:23:42.263 --> 01:23:47.263

Jen Buoy: Yeah, so I'm on the with the NAMI on their board as an assistant treasurer, so...

01:23:47.534 --> 01:23:50.534

Uh, what's your organization name, then?

01:23:51.948 --> 01:23:53.948

Lynn Canfield: It's the Alliance for Inclusion and Respect.

01:23:54.082 --> 01:23:56.082

Jen Buoy: Okay.

01:23:56.082 --> 01:23:59.243

Lynn Canfield: And NAMI's been with us from the very beginning, and they're very interested in

01:23:59.244 --> 01:23:59.676

Mm-hmm.

01:23:59.511 --> 01:24:02.511

Seeing how these things work out. So, good. So maybe.

01:24:02.536 --> 01:24:05.536

Maybe you'll be one of the people who tells me what you think of it.

01:24:07.421 --> 01:24:15.421

Jen Buoy: Maybe if you tell them, you share your information with them. I think that the word will get out about the movies, probably.

01:24:16.074 --> 01:24:18.074

For people to go earning,

01:24:18.125 --> 01:24:20.125

Because I don't think enough people know...

01:24:20.711 --> 01:24:22.711

Until the word gets spread.

01:24:24.898 --> 01:24:28.898

Lynn Canfield: Well, would you... would you nudge them for me? Because I've... I've been sharing the information

01:24:29.359 --> 01:24:33.359

with them, and I really do hope that folks turn out. So maybe you can

01:24:33.776 --> 01:24:35.776

Give them a little encouragement, too.

01:24:40.734 --> 01:24:42.734

Lindsey Anderson: to touch a little bit more on

01:24:42.767 --> 01:24:45.767

what you were talking about, Lynn, um...

01:24:46.604 --> 01:24:52.604

So this is Lindsey, I work at DSC. My position is possible because of DDB,

01:24:52.491 --> 01:24:54.491

And

01:24:55.171 --> 01:25:01.171

I work with advocates, so if you are ever wanting to coordinate on something or have an idea, um...

01:25:01.171 --> 01:25:03.223

I'm more than happy to...

01:25:03.224 --> 01:25:06.079

Coordinate with you guys to get something going.

01:25:06.459 --> 01:25:08.459

Um...

01:25:09.063 --> 01:25:13.063

I think we talked about this when we were meeting with Kim Fisher, um,

01:25:13.039 --> 01:25:15.039

To plan this presentation,

01:25:15.252 --> 01:25:17.252

a big..

01:25:18.368 --> 01:25:22.368

Like, most of the public has no idea about disability history.

01:25:22.731 --> 01:25:26.731

I just learned this year about the, like,

01:25:27.762 --> 01:25:31.762

Washington, D.C. Crawl up the steps with the 504 sit-ins.

01:25:31.484 --> 01:25:36.484

Um, just this year, I learned that, and I've been in this field for 5 years, so that's kind of crazy.

01:25:36.589 --> 01:25:44.589

So, I feel like the first step is kind of educating the public on the history, the why we're doing it,

01:25:45.754 --> 01:25:52.754

So I do... I love the idea of the films, and I think, yeah, if we can advertise more and get more people out, I think that's a great place to start.

01:25:59.181 --> 01:26:01.181

Kim Fisher: Okay, so it sounds like...

01:26:01.181 --> 01:26:05.168

Um, there's consensus that we'd like to continue this work

01:26:05.698 --> 01:26:09.698

On the resolution, went, um, through education,

01:26:10.065 --> 01:26:13.065

You know, disability history,

01:26:13.784 --> 01:26:20.784

Uh, those kind of things, and then maybe potentially presenting this in other spaces, like Chamber of Commerce, Rotary,

01:26:21.249 --> 01:26:24.249

Or, um, we have even talked as our group,

01:26:24.250 --> 01:26:30.291

Uh, we've talked a little bit about actually just taking turns reading the resolution at different public board meetings.

01:26:31.164 --> 01:26:37.164

So, I personally would love to continue working with all of you on this, so I would love to...

01:26:38.213 --> 01:26:41.213

Help, and I'll bring back information to the Boards about that.

01:26:41.646 --> 01:26:44.646

Not sure if what's the next item in the agenda?

01:26:46.461 --> 01:26:48.461

Chairs. Chairs?

01:26:53.768 --> 01:26:56.768

Anne Robin: Well, since we are not doing an official meeting,

01:26:57.546 --> 01:27:01.546

We have public participation agency input. Are there any...

01:27:02.087 --> 01:27:06.087

Agency input or public... I mean, this all is public participation.

01:27:05.893 --> 01:27:07.893

That's what this whole meeting is about.

01:27:08.931 --> 01:27:11.931

Anybody that has not had a chance to speak.

01:27:18.770 --> 01:27:23.770

Jane Sprandel: Okay, if not, if no one has any board announcements or other input,

01:27:24.610 --> 01:27:27.610

Um, I personally would like to thank all of our advocates,

01:27:27.808 --> 01:27:29.808

And our community, um...

01:27:30.550 --> 01:27:33.550

you know, assistants who have helped with this.

01:27:34.545 --> 01:27:41.545

Again, one of my phrases lately is, it takes a village, and I think we all just continue to work hard on this common theme.

01:27:41.974 --> 01:27:43.974

And we will continue to see

01:27:43.861 --> 01:27:45.861

positive change, I hope.

01:27:47.937 --> 01:27:49.937

Thanks, everybody, for coming.

