

PM SESSION: 1:45-3:30 PM

Roundtable Discussions: Sharing Experiences, Information, and Resources for Empowering Individuals and Families Living with Disabilities

Please pick a table that will provide you with the most experience and information, and where you can share your experiences and/or best practices with other participants. Each table is assigned a certain topic and will be moderated by an expert(s) in that particular field.

Table 1: Assisting parents of children with disabilities involved in the Department of Child Protection and Permanency (DCP and P), particularly undiagnosed autism or developmental delay and/or cultural or language barriers.

Table Host: **Allison Shorey, LCSW, CEO and Executive Director, Multicultural Community Services, Inc.**

TABLE 2: Addressing ‘isms’ and fostering cultural competency in caring for diverse populations. How we can provide more culturally responsive and effective services to individuals/families who are differently abled; how we can better address the intersectionality of different ‘isms’.

Table Host: **Keva White, LCADC, LSW, President and CEO, VIP Community Services**

TABLE 3: Addressing Limited English Language Proficiency (LEP) issues in working with people with disabilities. How can language be improved for individuals/families living with disabilities who have limited English proficiency? What are barriers/facilitators?

Table Host: **Sophia Rossovsky, MEd, Executive Director, City Access New York, Inc.**

Table 4: Helping low-income children with disabilities and their families address social and legal problems affecting their health and well-being – a look into the H.E.A.L Collaborative’s mission to bring together professionals and graduate students in the fields of law, health sciences, and social work. The importance of medical-legal partnerships.

Table Host: **Jennifer Rosen Valverde, Esq., MSW, Director of H.E.A.L (Health, Education, Advocacy and Law), Rutgers Biomedical & Health Sciences Outpatient & Pediatrics Dept.**

Table 5. How parent leaders can provide crucial support to other parents, identify their role and empower them to utilize their strengths in building communities and helping organizations through active involvement. Strategies used in working with organizations to address health disparities. David Armstrong will speak about his work as a parent leader on the Project LAUNCH team, building the National Early Childhood Family Network and engaging other parents--specifically parents with children with disabilities.

Table Host: **David Armstrong, Parent Leader (Family Support Organization, Essex Project LAUNCH and ECCS Parent Lead)**

Table 6. Addressing and serving the needs of individuals with special health care needs, including those who are print-impaired and the aging population; learning how to use assistive technology. What are the strategies used in working with organizations to address health disparities? What role can public libraries play in helping individuals/families living with disabilities ?

Table Host: **Adam Szczepaniak, Deputy State Librarian and Director, Talking Book and Braille Center**

Table 7. Best practices in supporting people with disabilities in career planning, employment, and other types of transition. Addressing barriers that often prohibit people with disabilities from realizing self-sufficiency and economic mobility, and types of long-term services and supports that can help them achieve these goals.

Table Host: **Shellyann Dacres, MA, Training & Consultation Specialist, The Elizabeth M. Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities Rutgers University – Robert Wood Johnson Medical School**

Table 8. Immigrants now comprise 22.4 percent of New Jersey's population. Many have experienced warfare, civil conflict, and gang violence in their home countries. These often traumatic experiences, combined with the challenge of adjustment to a new society, create a special set of problems for immigrants with disabilities. What strategies and approaches have proven the most effective in addressing issues of past trauma, displacement, cultural conflict, and uncertain legal status? How can immigrants with disabilities overcome these formidable barriers?

Table Host: **Aruna Rao, Associate Director, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), New Jersey**

Table 9. State programs serving children with special health care needs; includes programs that promote access to care through early identification and referral and follow-up to community-based, culturally competent services Family Centered Care Services/Case Management, & Early Intervention services.

Table host: **Pauline Lisciotto, RN, MSN, APHN-C, Program Manager, Family Centered Care Services, NJ Department of Health**

Table 10. State-mandated programs serving infants and children with birth defects and autism; includes infants with metabolic, endocrine and hematologic disorders.

Table host: **Zenaida Steinhauer, BSN, MPA, RN, Quality Assurance Specialist, Health Services, Early Identification and Monitoring, NJ Department of Health**

Table 11. What is the type of health care coverage provided to individuals and families with disabilities through HMOs? Innovative approaches to provide and improve members' health outcomes and quality of life through access to high quality, cost-efficient care and services the Amerigroup way.

Table Hosts: **Katrina Mickey, RN, LMSW, CCM Manager, Health Care Management Department, Amerigroup**
Nazareth Philpott-Labetti, RN, BSN, Amerigroup

Table 12. SPAN's **vision** is that all families will have the resources and support they need to ensure that their children become fully participating and contributing members of our communities and society. SPAN's **mission** is to empower and support families and inform and involve professionals interested in the healthy development and education of children and youth. We do this by ensuring professionals are given tools to Lead by convening parents as leaders. This discussion will engage parents and professionals together to enhance leadership at the community and state level.

Table Host: **Nicole Pratt, PTI Senior Parent Professional Staff Trainer, FASD Project Coordinator - Statewide Parent Advocacy Network**

Table 13. Sexuality for People with Intellectual/Developmental Dis-ability. This talk is designed to increase caregivers' and professionals' knowledge of normal and healthy sexual functioning of individuals living with intellectual and/or developmental dis-abilities. Discussions will focus on self-care, positive self-esteem, and exploitation safety.

Table Host: **Yvette R. Murry, MSW, LCSW, President and COO, YRM Consulting Group, LLC**

Table 14. How Poverty and Disability Interact to Affect Employment. The mission of the New **Jersey** Division **of** Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVRS) is to enable eligible individuals with disabilities to achieve an employment outcome consistent with their strengths, priorities, needs, abilities and capabilities.

Table Host: **David Free, Acting Director, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services, NJ Department of Labor and Workforce Development**

Table 15. Benefits for people with disabilities: Social Security and Supplemental Security Income Disability programs. How are these 2 programs different?

Table Host: **Ms. Diouf, District Manager, New Brunswick District, Social Security Administration**

