

[LIZ] Hello and welcome to the Trainee Welcome Webinar: The Power of the Network.

The discussion and resources in this presentation will be archived for future use. We are going to get started with a video of the history of the AUCD network.

[Video playing] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EG5u8ybB92o>

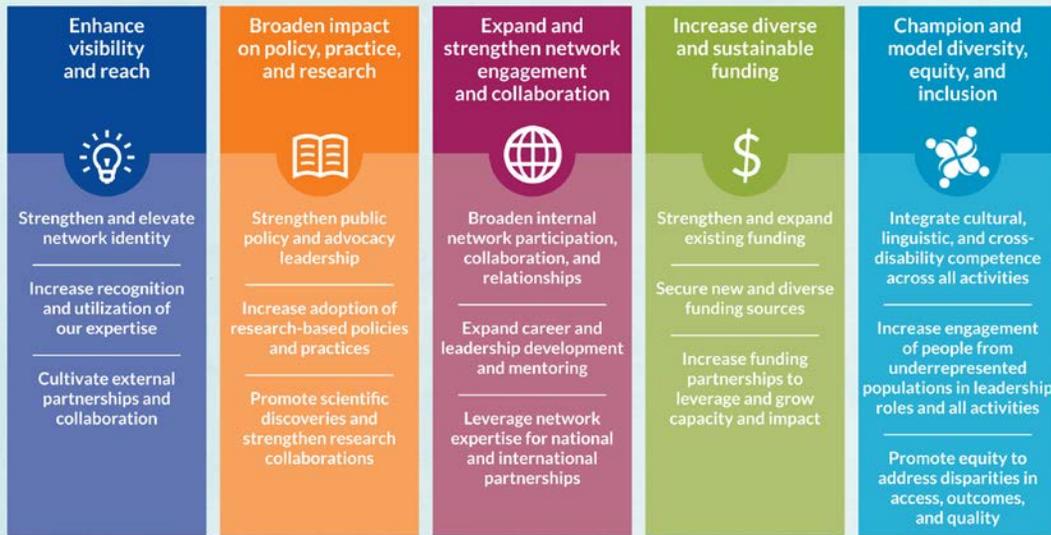
[LIZ] That video gives some good history of the AUCD network. We are now going to turn things over to Andy Imparato, Executive Director of AUCD.

[ANDY] Hello everybody this is Andy with AUCD. The purpose of today's webinar is to connect all of you our trainees in the network with each other and with AUCD and understand the value of being connected to a national network. I have been in the role of executive director at AUCD for about three years; today is actually my three-year anniversary. I'm a disabilities civil rights lawyer so from a discipline standpoint I'm coming from a law and policy perspective. I've been working in the disability field for about 25 years. Before AUCD, I was senior counsel and disability policy director for Senator Tom Harkin of Iowa who was the chair, at the time, of the U.S. Senate committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions. I think one of the things I most wanted to convey to you today is that the disability community at large requires the leadership of all of the individuals that are represented in the network to get involved in policy and advocacy so we can have an impact on behalf of the children that we serve in the community. One of the exciting things about the program to me is the diversity of the disciplines represented and the diversity of life experience that people have who are long-term trainees.

2015-2016

# AUCD STRATEGIC MAP

The Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) advances policies, practices, and research that improve the health, education, social, and economic well-being of people with disabilities, their families, and their communities through a national network of university-based centers in every state and territory. Working with and for people with disabilities, AUCD seeks to **strengthen our network, engage the public, and expand our impact** between now and the end of 2016.



www.aucd.org

AUCD Strategic Map 1

The next slide is a map of some of the large goals that we have developed as a network [available at <http://www.aucd.org/template/page.cfm?id=948>]. This is something we developed after I started as an executive director. I think, as you all know we have a broad network of 67 Universities, at least one in every state and territory. We used to have 43 LEND programs; we now have 52 programs, so we've had a significant expansion of the footprint since last year, which is really exciting, and for those of you who are participating in brand-new programs welcome to the network. These goals were really intended to be broad goals and I just want to touch on it briefly as they relate to you as trainees.

The first goal is about enhancing the visibility and reach of our network. If you add up the budget of all of our centers and programs together, we are a \$650 million network that does not have a big national brand or big brand identity, so one way we can have more impact as a network, is the making sure people know about us. What can you do to help with that as a trainee? Many of you are much more savvy on social media, for example, than a lot of the directors and professors in our network. So if you can help to be an amplifier of the things we are trying to get out there, whether it's webinars or materials -- we just did a twitter chat yesterday about rights for people with disabilities so they can learn what they are entitled to when they vote, that's a great example having trainees around the country amplifying that can be very hopeful. The hashtag for that was #PWD2VOTE and we can circulate that out through

this webinar. That's an example where by promoting that hashtag you can draw attention to a lot of twitter feeds that are used in our network. Our Twitter feed is @AUCDnews, but if you just look at who has participated in that chat, a lot of the individual centers are in the twitter feed. That's just one small example of how the trainees can help to enhance the visibility of the network. Obviously you can promote the program to other folks who might be interested in being trainees, that's another example of how you can enhance the visibility.

The second goal is broadening impact on policy, practice, and research. You all have insights based on your experience - especially those of you who are people with disabilities yourselves or maybe your parents or siblings are folks with disabilities. You also have experience working in clinical settings, you see what's happening with your patients and your families and your clients and their families and all that is stuff that can be useful when we're trying to inform policymakers about what the evidence says with examples of what's going on in individual lives. You can think about something like affordable care act or housing policy implementation and consider how its working on the ground. Those are things that trainees can have an impact on in policy. We have an annual conference coming up in December and then we have a disability policy seminar coming up in March. We always have a lot of trainees that come to both of those events and one of the things they do they is go up to Capitol Hill and talk to staff and members of Congress about policy issues that you're all interested in and that's an example how you can help on the impact on policy practice and research.

The third goal is about having our network be more connected to each other as a network. What we are doing today is a good example of this goal. It's also the reason we have a Virtual Trainee trying to tie all of you together as trainees and connect you with a network of alumni and the broader network of centers, programs and trainees. So again, you all have a lot to do that help create more cohesion and collaboration across the network.

Next, we have a goal about increasing our funding, expansion of the footprint, the overall funding for the programs. This is particularly important now that we have 53 LEND programs. We are going to have to make the case for why that was a good investment to the folks on the Hill and the folks in the administration that made that investment. So you all telling your stories and talking about the value of the LEND program is a great way we can protect that funding and expand it even more over time. Our goal is eventually to have a LEND program in every state and territory just like we have the University centers of excellence in every state and territory. By you all sharing your stories, you will help us get to that goal.

Finally, we have a goal to champion and modeling diversity, equity, and inclusion. This is something that is a real priority for both the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute for Child Health and Human Development, and the national institutes of health. Those are three of our primary funding sources for our network. We want the folks that we are training to be leaders across all disciplines to reflect the diversity of the communities that they

serve. We want to see more people with disabilities, see more people from diverse ethnic and racial backgrounds, people from the LGBT community involved in training and going on to practice in the communities we serve in a way that is effective and culturally and linguistically competent. You are a big part of that. The diversity within the LEND training program is stronger than the diversity in just about any other aspect of our network. So you are bringing a lot of cultural and linguistic competence and experience that our whole network can benefit and learn from and that can help our network become more diverse and more competent over time. And to feel more connected to the disability community over time.

Next up is one of my great members, Jerry Alliston; we have a national Board of Directors that is made up of leaders in our network. Jerry is on the board and is Chair of the Community Education and Dissemination Council. He is here representing the entire network's Councils and Special Interest Groups (SIG's). He is the chair of the Council that's in charge of information dissemination, which is basically sharing the good information that we have in the network with multiple public audiences so we can have a greater impact on what's happening in settings and public policy and in classrooms, etc. Without any further ado I am going to turn it over to Jerry Alliston. Welcome.

[JERRY] Thank you Andy and happy anniversary, that's awesome!

I want to say welcome all trainees and future experts or probably already currently experts in the field. I appreciate you all. I'm in Mississippi and I'm traveling today but I work at the Mississippi Institute for Disability Studies, and we partner with the LEND in Arkansas. We are trying to move towards maybe eventually having our own program one day. I'm with the community education director here in Mississippi and I love that I get to work with a lot of young adults and with students at LEND or undergraduates etc. Thank you for having me on board.

I was going to briefly just review the five councils that AUCD has. And tell you a little bit about them.

[For more information about AUCD's Councils, visit <http://www.aucd.org/template/page.cfm?id=28>]

The first one is CORE, Council on Research and Evaluation. I think that's self-explanatory but there is a lot of research and evaluation happening across the network, collaborations, and partnerships. There's some advocacy work in calling attention to valid research, looking at some of the methodologies etc. And then passing these effective research and evaluation skills along to future professionals, tomorrow's professionals. We're talking trainees, young professionals.

The next council is COCA, The Council on Community Advocacy. This council is comprised of individuals with disabilities and family members from across the network. One of the biggest things that they do is engaging and supporting engagement of consumer advisory committees. They look to advance policy by the law; they have represented the perspective of family members and people with disabilities in our network. So the COCA

is wonderful and do a lot with helping to build partnerships across the whole network and with other agencies, helping to disseminate information, and really just being leaders and then passing on those mentorship opportunities across the network. They do a lot of self-advocacy and some of the other areas in the last years.

The third one that I'm going to talk about the Multicultural Council, and it's kind of self-explanatory in the name as well. It has a huge focus on cultural diversity and cultural and linguistic competency. They are a really innovative counsel they have done a lot with training, direct service, and just really getting the information out there. They have done a lot with AUCD and AIDD and developing from best practices that are going across the network.

The fourth one is Community Education and Dissemination Council; it's taken a leadership role in getting information out across the network. So developing practices - best practices - in how you get information out, education, educational programs etc. We focused a lot on training, how to get that best practice information out, whether it's webinars, other training mechanisms. We had a recent great webinar on social media, how you use it in the network. A lot of talk about Facebook, Instagram, snapchat. How do we use snapchat? Being able to provide information.

The last one I will talk briefly about is National Training Director Council; this looks at effectiveness and training, at policies and procedures, and at how to really get the training out there and best practices in that area with short, medium AND long-term trainees. It is comprised of Training Director representatives from across the network. They have a huge focus on the last couple of years with developing some best practices and various trainings.

I'm kind of representing all the councils here today just real briefly but one thing we are really focusing on doing more of is collaboration. Andy had mentioned the annual conference is coming up in December, and that's when the Councils meet and we do a lot of planning for the next year. And we really want to have goals for this next year for some things that are going on now: in collaboration, CORE is partnering with COCA, with the family members to do more training out there, how can you involve more people with disabilities and training and reserach. Whether using research training or whatever you're doing, making sure that we're keeping everybody involved. The NTDC and CEDC, we're going to meet together at the annual conference for part of it because it's a lot of the same people, it flows really well. We're looking at how we can disseminate information and training information better. And the Multicultural Council is to share information with all of us. We plan to really increase our collaboration between councils, but right now we are really focused on how we can get trainees more involved. We are going to be hopefully doing another webinar in the very near future just focused for you guys and to really go more in-depth what are councils do, what are specific opportunities for you are to be involved. I think that's about all I have for today. My information is on the screen. I will be glad to answer any questions and to share more because we are hoping to have trainees more involved in our counsel and we want to make sure that it's a good experience for you and for us as well.

[LIZ] Thank you very much Jerry, we appreciate you taking the time to talk with us today.

[JERRY] Thank you guys so much. I wish you all the best. I look forward to meet you all again at the conference!

[ANDY] Now we are going to be joined by another great member of the AUCD national board, Zipporah Levi-Shackleford. Zipporah is the person on the national board who represents the perspective of recent trainees and early career professionals. She will tell you her story as a recent family trainee and a faculty member on the Virginia LEND, based in Richmond, Virginia. Zipporah is a multitalented entrepreneur; we are very lucky to have her on our board and in the network. Zipporah, it's all yours.

[ZIPPORAH]

Hello everybody. This is my third year involved with the network and it's just amazing because every year it gets better and better and in my opinion for the trainees there are so many resources available to help you with networking with one another, including creating good relationships and collaborations on research projects. I've heard of trainees finding out more about other academic experiences through different centers. And the professional development! As I said I'm actually kind of summarizing what Liz and Andy already went through. The best way for trainees to be involved is to just stay active. Social media is a great way to get that quick information about what's going on across the network, webinars, AUCD has a lot of webinars and they do a very good job of choosing topics that relate to many different disciplines. It's not always related to one specific discipline, there's something for everybody. If you're not able to attend a webinar, there are always archived and there is a great library that you can access them to get a lot of valuable information. The councils and Special Interest Groups (SIGs) which Jerry spoke about, when I first started I was not sure if the councils was something for trainees to get involved with and I was very surprised to find out that it is. The AUCD network is very, very accessible for trainees, very transparent, so I encourage you all to get involved, to ask questions, to talk with everybody to get as much information as you need. Everybody is very supportive. The councils are a great way to get information about topics that you are interested in, to help you figure out a direction you may want to go in as far as research and just find ways to help. I definitely recommend getting involved with the Councils and Special Interest Groups, SIGS, that Jerry said, there will be a webinar coming up soon that provides more detail about the different councils and things. Again, attending the annual meeting coming up in December, there are tons and tons of concurrent sessions to attend and there is even a trainee event on Sunday where you get valuable information and it's a great opportunity for everybody to get together during the webinars. We listen to each other and get to see people face-to-face and build strong relationships with one another. When I first started, like I said this is my 3rd year, my first year I was a trainee and I didn't then know what the AUCD network is. Where do I fit in this? The second year I was the assistant virtual trainee so just within that year, I got enough support to figure out what my role was and I was able

to grow and then the third year, this year, I'm the board representative and I've also completed my mentor program at Virginia and I'm actually the family discipline core faculty for the Virginia program. The network definitely is an experience for trying to help everybody's future leaders but I feel like we are today's leaders to help us make the foundation we need to make a difference in the world of disability. As the training representative, I work with a lot of people and I also provide information from the board to the trainees for everybody is on one page and knows what's going on and I want to encourage all of you guys to remember that you know, you are not inferior to others. The board and the network is very appreciative and accepting of your thoughts and ideas so please, please do share them. You can do that through social media and share your thoughts and ideas and I look forward to seeing many of you at the annual meeting.

[ANDY] We wanted to also introduce Christine Liao. Christine just started today, it's her first day on the staff at AUCD. This is a new position that we have created and Christine, like Zipporah, is a recent trainee. Her discipline within the program I think was social work -- sorry we kind of have a bias toward social work in the staff with all our MCH staff being social workers. Christine grew up in Tucson, completed her LEND training in Tucson, went to University of Washington undergrad in Seattle and we are very excited to have her on the staff. Christine, if you want to come over and introduce yourself that would be great. I'm going to trade chairs with you.

[CHRISTINE] Hello everyone. This is Christine. Thank you again for the introduction. I'm really excited to be the new program specialist at AUCD. I'm excited to be here at AUCD, and I was a former Arizona LEND fellow from 2015-2016. My previous experiences were at University of Washington where I focused on planning and implementing programs to address any gaps on campus and with the community. My passions are diversity, inclusion and language accessibility. I'm excited to work with you all together.

[LIZ] Thank you Christine. Thank you for those great introductions Andy. We're going to talk a little bit more about the training leadership opportunities available to you all. I am Liz Koss, I'm the virtual trainee and I'm from Chicago area, but have moved to Columbus Ohio for my Masters degree in occupational therapy. And I'm working towards a PhD in health and rehabilitation sciences starting full-time in the spring.

Now that I've introduced myself, I'm going to give you a little bit more information of what I will be doing as virtual trainee. I'm going to ask you to join the AUCD trainees listserv, you can get hold of me via social media or through this email listserv and I'll be sending out different updates on opportunities available for you, different scholarship opportunities, conferences, employment opportunities, and any opportunities that come up within the network. I will be disseminating that information out to you. And then I'm going to ask for your help so we can build our network together. AUCD puts a lot of opportunities out there for us so we can help build a network and create a more diverse and even more inclusive network. Any ideas that you have or anything that

your program is doing, please let us know, we would love to share that information with everyone else. Additionally, I want to be a spokesperson for you. If you have any questions or concerns at your program center or you would like getting connected with the resources, please contact me as I am here to do that for you and I can also talk to the AUCD board members about any questions or concerns that you may have.

AUCD really contributes to our leadership opportunities as trainees. They really believe in us and they put a lot of emphasis and time on professional development for us. They have so many different learning and employment opportunities that are available to us. If you follow the social media posts you'll be able to see all the different opportunities they have for us as well as the different resources available. Another great way to get information is by following the training welcome guide. This is the training welcome guide and it provides resources to you and an introduction and how to work through the network and find what you're looking for. That is available to you if you have any questions about that please let me know.

Other opportunities that AUCD provides for us are conferences. Upcoming this December the AUCD annual meeting, navigating change, building our future together. That will be December 4, through the 7th in Washington DC. At the conference we talk a lot about the different projects that are going on in the network, we focus on our networking, professional development, between trainees and between other programs presenters and it's a great opportunities and there are scholarships available for you. If you go to AUCD's website and the trainee page and if you scroll down, there is information for the scholarships available to you there. And then you can also use that link or the link below at AUCD registration link to register for the conference.

Your program or center may also have different scholarship opportunities or funding opportunities available to you for that conference. So please talk with your director or other trainees to find out what the options are out there for you. And the scholarships are due by October 17, so that deadline has been extended to give it one more time in case this is first time you are hearing about it. Get those submitted in the next few weeks. Additionally, AUCD holds a disability policy seminar that will be March 20th through the 22nd also in Washington DC. This is really heavy on policy. We will learn so much about different policies and how we can be advocates for ourselves and families and others with disabilities. This is a great opportunity and I highly recommend that you consider looking into that as well. We talked a little bit about what we're doing is virtual trainees and what AUCD is doing for us as trainees so now it's time to see what you can do. First is to join the trainee network. Make sure that you subscribe to that listserv so you are getting all the email notification and you are up-to-date on all the different opportunities available to you. Additionally we ask that you follow us on Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn to find out more what's going on and you see the articles to be provided with different opportunities. Twitter's a great way to know what's going on and stay up-to-date on all the current resources and opportunities.

Additionally, we ask that you attend the AUCD conference in December, it's a great learning experience and it's a great way to get to know other people, talk to others about what you are interested in and find opportunities to pursue some of your passions. Our accounts are AUCD trainees on Facebook and then at @AUCDVT for twitter. It's a great way to talk to other trainees. We want you to post different things you're talking about in your classes or and seminars. We would love to see what service opportunities you are involved in and different project you are doing think it's a great way to communicate with others that are doing similar things and maybe even improve the work you're doing or help others improve what they're doing.

We are looking for trainee liaisons right now. Trainee liaisons ideally is one person whom is representing their center or program. They will be communicating directly with me so we can communicate with the AUCD board about what's going on at each center and in each program. It's a volunteer position that takes approximately 2 hours per month. It's pretty low-key and we ask that you are involved in social media so you can help connect all the centers and programs through Twitter, Facebook, and all those social media outlets. Additionally, we ask that you keep us up-to-date on what's going on with your program and center and relay that information back to your program or center.

It's a great leadership opportunity and we are still looking for many liaisons from different universities and different centers and programs. Please, if you don't know of a trainee liaison for your center or program, please talk to your director and we're hoping to have our trainee liaison established by October 17. So please email me about any questions you might have or questions in the chat box so we can talk more about that. The Trainee Liaison section on the AUCD website just provides more information about what the benefits are, how you can enhance your leadership skills and how to apply. Kind of to sum up what we are looking for in this semester and in this year. We are asking you to become involved on social media. The call to action is to try to post to Facebook once per week. Whether that's an article you found that you think is interesting, or something you saw someone else post that you thought was interesting or something that you're doing in your community or you are doing in class. Pictures are great, but basically any updates whether their educational, advocacy or inspirational in general. We would love to see what's going on with you and really be able to connect of those levels. We ask that you try to tweet as well. We would like to see even more tweets per week. You can tag @AUCDvt, @AUCDnews and @AndyAUCD that goes directly to the network and to Andy and we can kind of help answer any questions or share your information they are providing that they pick. Finally, we ask that you go to the AUCD annual meeting and if you're planning on applying for a scholarship for the conference please apply for those by October 17. Lastly copy sure to email me with any questions regarding training liaison and please have your talk to directors about that and have those submissions in by October 17, so we can get to work on how we can work together as trainees in this network and talk to our board of directors to make some changes.

Going to some of the questions that are being asked right now. I was asked to elaborate more on the Facebook post and which account you should

be using. That is completely dependent on your own personal preference. I know some people who use their personal Facebook page and use it professionally as well and others who have a separate professional Facebook page. I think that just depends on what kind of information that is on your personal page and if you want everyone aware of that. Facebook can be a great way to connect and grow for professional development and network so if there's something on your personal page that you want to keep personal, then I would recommend having a professional page as well to do all your networking. But if you're not worried about that and you're open to having everyone aware whatever is on your personal page, you can use that as well for connecting with the network.

Additionally, I was asked about the Facebook page. I was asked whether we should tag AUCD in it and we ask that for Facebook and twitter that you tag AUCD Trainees on Facebook and @AUCDvt on Twitter and you can also tag Andy and the @AUCDNews twitter account on those posts. That way I'm seeing your posts so we can make sure we follow you back and we can answer any questions that your posting or share any accomplishments that your posting about your center. It's a great way for us to connect. For those of you who have been on the trainee listserv for the past few weeks, you might have seen that there is some collaborating going on about different interests and passions and different questions within the trainee world and we hope to increase things like that on social media as well. If you have any questions or you're looking for resources social media can be a great place to ask those questions and get a threat of responses about that information.

[ANDY] I just wanted to add to what you said about personal and professional on Facebook. I think the etiquette around social media is evolving and it's not always intuitive. My general rule for everything I put on Facebook and twitter is that it's public and if there's anything that I don't want a very big audience to see, I generally don't post it. I recognize not everybody follows that, but I think especially as you are starting your career, you are better off assuming that anything you post online will be forwarded to someone that you don't want to see it. If you start with that assumption, you're probably not going to make a lot of mistakes.

[LIZ] Absolutely. Thank you, Andy.

[SARAH] Having a personal Facebook page doesn't insulate you from people that you want to interact professionally who could still see the things that you post. That's I think the point of being very sensitive and aware of what you post on Facebook regardless of whether you have one or two accounts.

[LIZ] We also have an interesting question about ways that AUCD interacts with international network and I want to give Andy a chance to give a summary of the many ways that AUCD touches the world at large.

[ANDY] I think let's just focus on the trainees for a moment. If you think about the information that you are learning and that information is valuable outside the borders of the United States, you as a trainee may have language connections and other natural connections outside the

borders of the United States. We think one of the opportunities at AUCD is to share our expertise anywhere in the world where that expertise can be valuable. We have had trainees that have connections to Brazil, to the Congo or to the Middle East, in fact to countries around the world. They either go back to those countries to share what they've learned or sometimes they do distance education with folks in those countries and try to share information that they have. We do have a committee that cuts across all of our centers, an international committee, so anybody who is interested and in local work around disability, is welcome to connect with that committee meeting and if people want more information about what's going on internationally, you can follow up with Liz and we can connect you with people who are working in that particular area of interest.

[LIZ] Absolutely. You can connect with me via email or through twitter and Facebook.

Someone else asked how to set up a Twitter account. I just wanted to address that question. If you log onto twitter, you can create your own login and once you are on Twitter, it's similar to Facebook where you can be friends with someone but they call it follow, you can follow others and that way you see their twitters on your feed. You can like their post, reply or share a post, which is called retweeting. So if you're quoting an article and something you want to talk more about you can include your own opinion on there. Or you can include a hashtag to help that reach.

We have another question here. Is tagging a person or group on Facebook the same as clicking like on that page?

Tagging a person on Facebook is different than liking the page. If you like the page then you'll be following that and if you tag them, you're sharing whatever your posting with them. For example if you wanted to post an accomplishment of your program, we ask that you tag us with the @ sign or the tag feature on Facebook and that will be sent to us directly and we will be notified that you tag thus and we will be able to see that information. That helps us to know everything that's put on there so we know what's going on in case we would have missed that in our newsfeed.

We now have a question about trainee liaisons. If you have been nominated as a trainee liaison, you can just contact me via email. I ask that you send your name, your email, and your discipline or area of study and then once the October 17 deadline passed, we will reach out to all the trainee liaisons to start collaborating and working and stay up-to-date on all the different programs and centers.

I missed the other half of the question, I'm sorry. Do I have a lot of experience as a liaison? I actually was not the trainee liaison for my program last year. I was a first year trainee last year and my center was fortunate enough to have a second year trainee who assumed the position. However, I talked at length with the trainee liaison at our center to know what's expected, how it works, what are pros and cons and likes and dislikes. I'm open to any feedback that you have for me throughout this experience. If you're interested in becoming a liaison but not sure you

can commit to that, please send me an email and we can talk more about that. Also Zipporah is a great person to reach out to. Please email her to talk to her about any questions you might have about being a trainee liaison and what responsibilities that entails.

We have a question that came directly to us as well that said they are not sure how to tag people, there's a question about using the @ sign, that's what you use on twitter to notify someone that you're talking about them. So you would say @ AUCD to let us know that you're talking about us you want us to see what you're saying. That's on twitter. On Facebook you tag people by putting their name in and it will pop up if you wanted to go directly to the person that you're talking about and then you can just say yes. Facebook makes it fairly easy call you don't actually have to know somebody's screen name in order to tag them. Just their real name.

There are many job opportunities through AUCD and I listed a link here with many opportunities. Additionally if you follow the listserv, we will update you would leadership opportunities in employment opportunities throughout the year. I just posted the link with the AUCD training opportunities and there is many right now. There's always quite a few opportunities and also includes other opportunities in similar interest areas that you have a wide range of resources to look through there.

I can send out the PDF format of the slide and I will give it a few days because if everybody joins the trainee listserv today is possible that it could take a few hours to get included into that listserv. I don't want anyone to miss the slides.

We will also be posting resources on social media and the webinar PDF to the page that has the webinar information from the archive. We will also be including as much captioning content as we have available, if we have some from before, we are able to get that live streamed on the webinar, we will include that for those who need that as an accommodation.

That's pretty impressive to see how many different disciplines and locations we have. It's exciting to see people getting connected on this webinar today.

To address Nathan's questions regarding the different stories, within AUCD we have been working on a new initiatives to kind of do a trainee spotlight so right now you may see on Facebook and twitter each month we list a different trainee that we are highlighting, where they come from, what they are involved in, some other passions and accomplishments. And then at the AUCD annual meeting, I will be interviewing other trainees to learn more about current trainee spotlights out there.

Amanda's question. Amanda asks if she can use twitter or Facebook to give information about how therapy dogs help people with developmental disabilities. We want to hear about what you are interested in and what you are passionate about so please share any resources that you may have. The beauty of the network is that we all come from different backgrounds, with different passions, and from the front disciplines and what I may be knowledgeable about is completely different than what other trainees may

be knowledgeable about so we can learn from each other and I don't know a whole lot about service dogs so I think it would be really great for me to learn through Amanda sharing that information so that maybe I can help connect other families and individuals that may benefit from the information she provided me. The whole purpose is were trying to use the social media for so please post anything that you are passionate about. Anything you find interesting that you think can be used as a resource for anyone in the network.

[ANDY] If I could just add- Liz I thought your answer was great and you're doing a great job as the virtual trainee. If you look at our strategic goals in a strategic map champion and modeling that works in equity and inclusion and one of the terms that is in there is to integrate cultural, linguistic, and cross disability competence across all activities. I know those are just words but what we mean by cross disability competence is exactly what Amanda was getting at. She has information about working with the service dog based of her personal experience that she can share and educate the network about the range of the way people use service dogs. A lot of people assume that a service dog is primarily for people who are blind but there are lots of other ways that people use service dogs so Amanda, that's a great example of how you can help build a cross disability competence and across the network.

[LIZ] With that, we will be concluding this webinar. Thank you all for participating and for listening in. Please register for the conference, apply for scholarships, and then hopefully we'll see you on social media. If you have any questions please email me directly or tag me on Facebook or twitter and I will be happy to help you out. I am looking forward to getting to know you all a little bit more virtually as liaisons and at the conferences.

[SARAH] Thank you Liz, Zipporah, Andy, and Jerry. Thanks all for sharing your knowledge on this webinar.

[Event concluded]