

# Living and Learning with Autism

December 6, 2016

Presented by Kenneth Kelty

# About me

- \* I am Kenneth Kelty and I am originally from West Palm Beach, Florida
- \* I graduated from The Western Carolina University UP (University Participant) program, and I am a former LEND Trainee Self Advocate grad student at The Carolina Institute for Developmental Disabilities.
- \* I am a motivational public speaker and nationally published author on my experience with autism and social inclusion on a college campus.

# Speech Difficulties

- \* Jackie=Zacki
- \* Fire Truck
- \* Chicken=Shicken

# Milestones that prepared me for College



- \* Safety patrol trip to Washington DC
- \* The Lake Worth Community High School Early Child Hood Academy
- \* Going to summer camps and after school programs in inclusive settings
- \* Volunteering at The Durham VA Medical Center
- \* Youth Group at The Methodist Church of The Palm Beaches
- \* Pushing my limits at a young age

# Involvement in my IEP and PCP Meetings

## IEP (Individualized Educational Plan)

- \* At a young age I attended all of my meetings and advocated for myself.
- \* There were good supports at the meetings and caring people

## PCP (Person Centered Planning)

- \* I lead all my meetings from the start of my journey at WCU.
- \* Family members could participate but did not have as much power like in an IEP meeting.
- \* If you could not come in person there were online options.

# My Experience as a UP Participant

## UP Program

- \* This is a two year inclusion program for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities
- \* This is a full inclusion program with no separation from the campus.

## My role as a student

- \* I took classes in Criminal Justice and Political Science
- \* I was part of The Delta Sigma Phi Fraternity and hung out with other organizations.
- \* I lived in a regular dorm and had a suitemate and I did internships.



# Class and Academic Support System in College

## WCU Support

- \* Academic Liaison would make sure all was going well in class
- \* Class supports could be a student in class or UP Support
- \* Supports were more than supports friends as well.
- \* You would meet up for class work and assignments and post what was going on site called Blackboard

## LEND Support

- \* Academic Coach is part of the LEND Program and checks in on the class and makes sure you are doing well on the assignment.
- \* Peer Mentor makes sure LEND and classes are going well and that goals are being meet.



6AM-7:30am WAKE UP, GET READY, X30 CLASS IN CRC FROM 6:45AM-7:15AM On Your Own	6AM-7:30am WAKE UP, GET READY, X30 CLASS IN CRC FROM 6:45AM-7:15AM On Your Own	8:30AM WAKE UP On Your Own	6AM-7:30am WAKE UP, GET READY, X30 CLASS IN CRC FROM 6:45AM-7:15AM On Your Own	6AM-8:30am WAKE UP, GET READY, X30 CLASS IN CRC FROM 6:45AM-7:15AM On Your Own	Time:	Time:
7:15am-9am GET READY, LEISURE On Your Own	7:30AM- 8:30AM GET READY, PACK A LUNCH TO TAKE TO WORK On Your Own	8:30AM-9:30AM GET READY On Your Own	7:30AM- 8:30AM GET READY, PACK A LUNCH TO TAKE TO WORK On Your Own	8:30AM-9:30AM GET READY On Your Own	Activity:	Activity:
9AM-10AM EAT BREAKFAST IN DINING HALL On Your Own	8:30AM- 9:30AM EAT BREAKFAST IN DINING HALL On Your Own	9:30AM-10:30AM TRAVEL TO DINING HALL, EAT BREAKFAST On Your Own	8:30AM- 9:30AM EAT BREAKFAST IN DINING HALL On Your Own	9:30AM-10:30AM TRAVEL TO DINING HALL, EAT BREAKFAST On Your Own	Friend:	Friend:
Ask a friend to eat with you, write them here:	Ask a friend to eat with you, write them here:	Ask a friend to eat with you, write them here:	Ask a friend to eat with you, write them here:	Ask a friend to eat with you, write them here:	Time:	Time:
10AM-11AM ACADEMIC CHECK IN AND HOMEWORK Seb Prohm	9:30AM-10AM MEET JACKSON CO. TRANSIT BUS BEHIND UC AT 9:30. TRAVEL TO WORK WITH ASHLEY MORTON & WILL On Your Own	10:30AM-11:30AM HOMEWORK FOR ANY CLASS Kate Carreno	9:30AM-10AM MEET JACKSON CO. TRANSIT BUS BEHIND UC AT 9:30. TRAVEL TO WORK On Your Own	10:30AM-11:30AM HOMEWORK FOR ANY CLASS Molly Lancaster	Activity:	Activity:
	10AM-2PM WORK AT SUSANS TAX OFFICE.	11:30AM-12:20PM EAT LUNCH On Your Own	10AM-4PM WORK AT SUSANS TAX OFFICE.	11:30AM-12:20PM EAT LUNCH On Your Own	Friend:	Friend:

1/27/14 MONDAY	1/28/14 TUESDAY	1/29/14 WEDNESDAY	1/30/14 THURSDAY	1/31/14 FRIDAY	2/01/14 SATURDAY	2/02/14 SUNDAY
11AM-12:20PM EAT LUNCH, TRAVEL TO CLASS On Your Own	2PM-2:30PM TRAVEL BACK TO CAMPUS ON JACKSON CO. TRANSIT BUS WITH KALIE DEATON & WILL On Your Own	12:20pm-1:25pm PSC 150 AMERICAN GOV & POL CLASS WITH TYLER REINAGEL IN MCKEE 134. Colin Cunningham	4PM-4:30PM TRAVEL BACK TO CAMPUS ON JACKSON CO. TRANSIT BUS On Your Own	12:20pm-1:25pm PSC 150 AMERICAN GOV & POL CLASS WITH TYLER REINAGEL IN MCKEE 134. Molly Lancaster	Time:	Time:
Ask a friend to eat with you, write them here:					Activity:	Activity:
12:20pm-1:25pm PSC 150 AMERICAN GOV & POL CLASS WITH TYLER REINAGEL IN MCKEE 134. Colin Cunningham	2:30pm-3pm LEISURE, AT 2:45 TRAVEL TO DISABILITY SERVICES OFFICE On Your Own	1:25PM-2:30PM PSC 317 POLITICS OF ASIA CLASS WITH JENNIFER SCHIFF IN MCKEE 229. Colin Cunningham	4:30PM-5:30PM DINNER, GET READY FOR CLASS. On Your Own	1:25PM-2:15PM PSC 317 POLITICS OF ASIA CLASS WITH JENNIFER SCHIFF IN MCKEE 229. Molly Lancaster	Time:	Time:
			Ask a friend to eat with you, write them here:		Activity:	Activity:
1:25PM-2:30PM PSC 317 POLITICS OF ASIA CLASS WITH JENNIFER SCHIFF IN MCKEE 229. Colin Cunningham	3PM-4PM HOMEWORK FOR ANY CLASS Kate Carreno	2:30pm-3:30pm PCP MEETING IN CAMP 145 Morgan Mehaffey	5:30PM-8:50PM TRAVEL TO BELK 412. 6-8:50PM CJ 204 CRIMINAL LAW CLASS Allison Burrow	2:15PM-3PM START LAUNDRY, CLEANING ROOM On Your Own	Time:	Time:
					Activity:	Activity:
2:30PM-3:30PM HOMEWORK FOR ANY CLASS Taylor Furr	4PM-5PM SPED 493 Morgan Mehaffey 828-550-6724	3:30PM-4:30PM SPED 493 Morgan Mehaffey	8:50PM-9:30PM RETURN TO DORM, LEISURE On Your Own	3PM-4PM HOMEWORK FOR CRIMINAL LAW Allison Burrow	Friend:	Friend:

1/27/14 MONDAY	1/28/14 TUESDAY	1/29/14 WEDNESDAY	1/30/14 THURSDAY	1/31/14 FRIDAY	2/01/14 SATURDAY
3:30pm-4:30pm SPED 493 Jessica Gregory	5PM-6PM DINNER On Your Own	4:30PM-5PM TRAVEL BACK TO BLUE RIDGE, LEISURE On Your Own	9:30pm-10pm NIGHTLY ROUTINE On Your Own	4PM-5PM FINISH LAUNDRY, CLEANING ROOM On Your Own	
	Ask a friend to eat with you, write them here:				
4:30pm-9:30pm DINNER, LEISURE FOR THE NIGHT On Your Own	6PM-9:30PM LEISURE On Your Own	5PM-7PM COOKING IN BLUE RIDGE COMMONS Tori Chastain	10PM-6AM SLEEP	5PM-6PM DINNER On Your Own	
Ask a friend to eat with you, write them here:				Ask a friend to eat with you, write them here:	
9:30pm-10pm NIGHTLY ROUTINE On Your Own	9:30pm-10pm NIGHTLY ROUTINE On Your Own	7PM-9:30PM LEISURE On Your Own		6PM- LEISURE, EMAIL REBEKAH AND KALEN YOUR WEEKEND PLANS On Your Own	
10PM-6AM SLEEP	10:30PM-8:30AM SLEEP	9:30pm-10pm NIGHTLY ROUTINE On Your Own			
		10PM-6AM SLEEP			

# Different work experience while at Western Carolina University

- \* SD Grant Office
- \* Student Mailroom
- \* International Student Office
- \* Public Relations Office and Creative Services
- \* Student EnTOURage
- \* Susan's Tax and Accountant Service



# My classes that I took my last semester.

- \* Criminal Law, criminal justice class
- \* American Government and Politics
- \* Politics of Asia 300
- \* I took criminal law because I liked learning about the law. I still want to work in a law firm as a paralegal assistant.
- \* American Government and politics I took so I can further my knowledge in that area.
- \* I took Politics of Asia because I love the culture and wanted to learn more about it.

# Clubs and Organizations I was involved in

- \* International studies club
- \* ASA (Asian Student Association)
- \* Diversity Committee
- \* Delta Sigma Phi fraternity

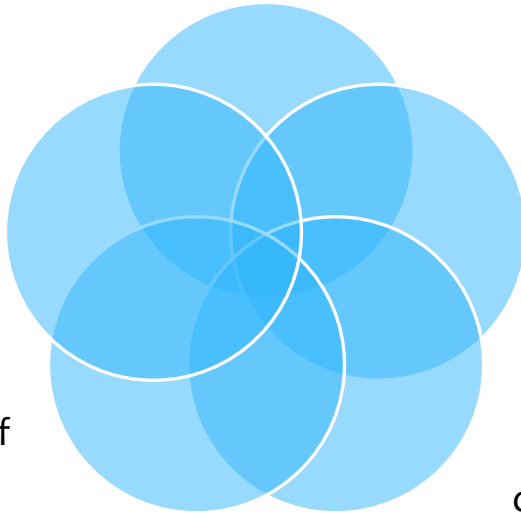


# Working with Volunteers

The volunteers went to class and helped with taking notes and making reminders for homework or chapters to read for UP participants.



We had craft nights.



We did fun stuff like throwing birthday parties and holiday ones.

Active leisure time like walking or going to the gym, or to the pool.



Ate together during breakfast, lunch and dinner.

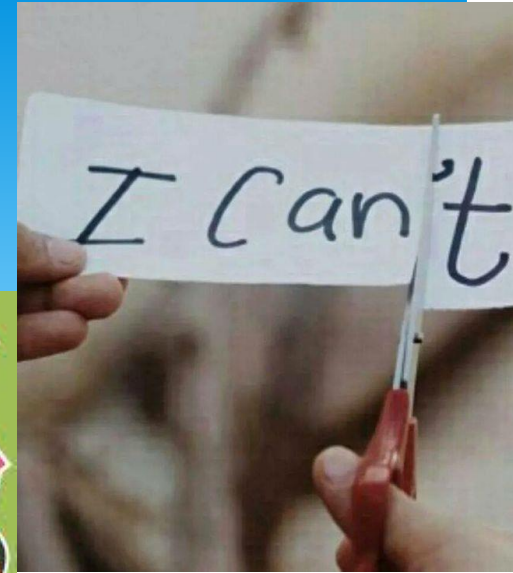


# Graduation class of 2014

- \* When I was in my first semester at Western Carolina the UP Participants had to have a separate graduation ceremony but that all changed after the student body petitioned the campus and now we can join in the WCU graduation



# Disability History



"See the person,  
not the label."

-Dr Temple Grandin

Temple Grandin, Ph.D., is the most accomplished and well-known adult with autism in the world. Her work continues to inspire millions.

Book: *The Way I See It*

[fhautism.com](http://fhautism.com)

just one  
extra  
chromosome

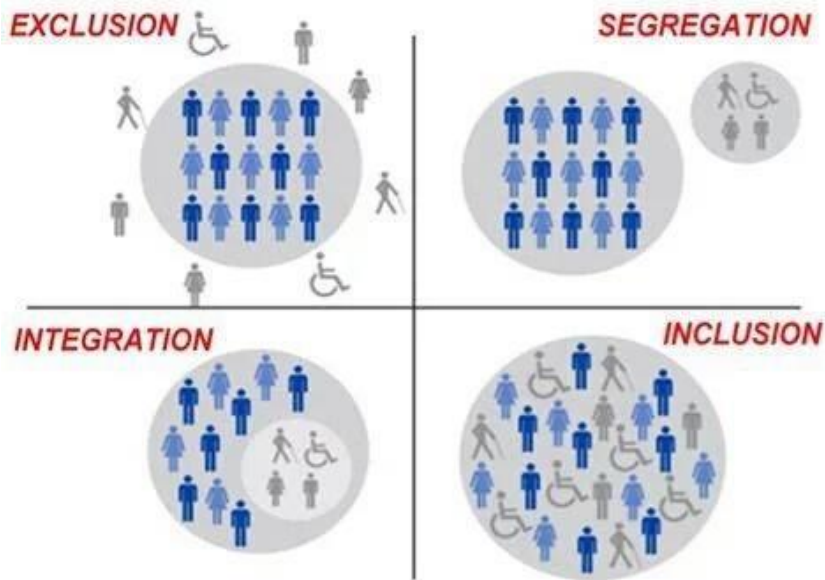


makes one  
extraordinary  
child

# Why inclusion matters

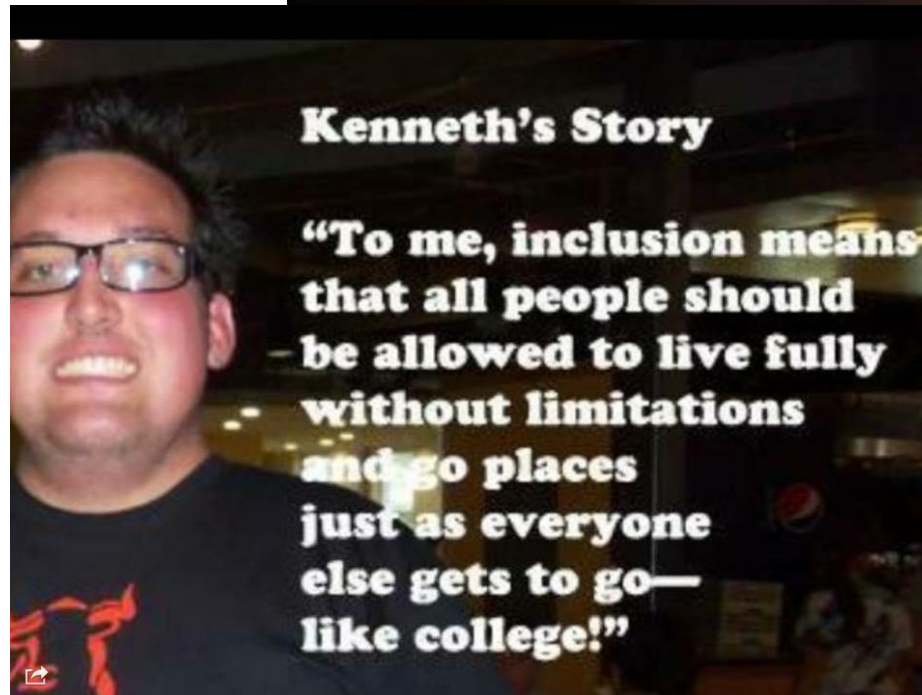
- \* Social inclusion in the school systems, community and post-secondary education matters because this can help all people learn and grow, develop and gain determination.
- \* When people with disabilities are put in self-contained settings the less likely they are to grow and have self-confidence in themselves. There is no room in those settings to learn from mistakes.





**Diversity and inclusion are about giving value to every human being, no matter our differences.**

thinkinclusive.us



# Planning for College and Transition

- \* Do volunteer work and take early college courses or some type of higher education.
- \* Experience a week on your college campus if invited to.
- \* Go to [ThinkCollege.net](http://ThinkCollege.net) if you want to look at Post-Secondary College education programs across the state.
- \* Know what you want to study.

# Living with Autism



- \* Remembering dates and details of events, people, and history
- \* Helps me stand out and think out side of the box
- \* Motivation to do well and speak

# 10 'SYMPTOMS' OF AUTISM

1. Someone who never gives up.

2. A loyal friend, trustworthy & dependable.

3. Truth seeker who wants to do what is right.

4. Caring, empathetic, sensitive & creative.

5. Ability to hyperfocus, analyse & systemise.

6. Loves details & notices patterns others may miss.

7. Perceives the world in a unique way.

8. Passionate about ideas & solving problems.

9. Amazing long term memory, can share helpful information.

10. Being awesome (autism ----> awetism).

"Interests and talents can turn into CAREERS. Developing and nurturing these UNIQUE ABILITIES can make life more FULFILLING for a person with autism."

- DR. TEMPLE GRANDIN



**D**ifferent  
**I**ndividuals  
**V**aluing  
**E**ach other  
**R**egardless of  
**S**kin  
**I**ntellect  
**T**alents or  
**Y**ears.

# Public Speaking and Publications

- \* My first nationally published article was with The American Evaluation Association on the research and evaluation I did on how to make WCU more inclusive.
- \* I have done speaking and articles on my experience with autism and social inclusion on a college campus.
- \* I have spoken to High School Students with and without disabilities. I have spoken at conferences and made my own power-point.



# My Experience as a LEND Trainee

- \* LEND stands for Leadership Education in Neuro-Developmental Disabilities and Related Disorders
- \* This is a graduate school program for professionals in both Masters and Ph.D. programs also for post doctoral students. Students with disabilities are also included as a Self-Advocate discipline and this helps the professionals learn how to work with people with disabilities.
- \* I did set goals for my semester and what I wanted to gain from my experience with LEND. I did some research work and I was part of Project STIR (Steps Towards Independence and Responsibility). We went out to local schools and talked to OCS students about goal settings and why it is important to advocate for yourself.

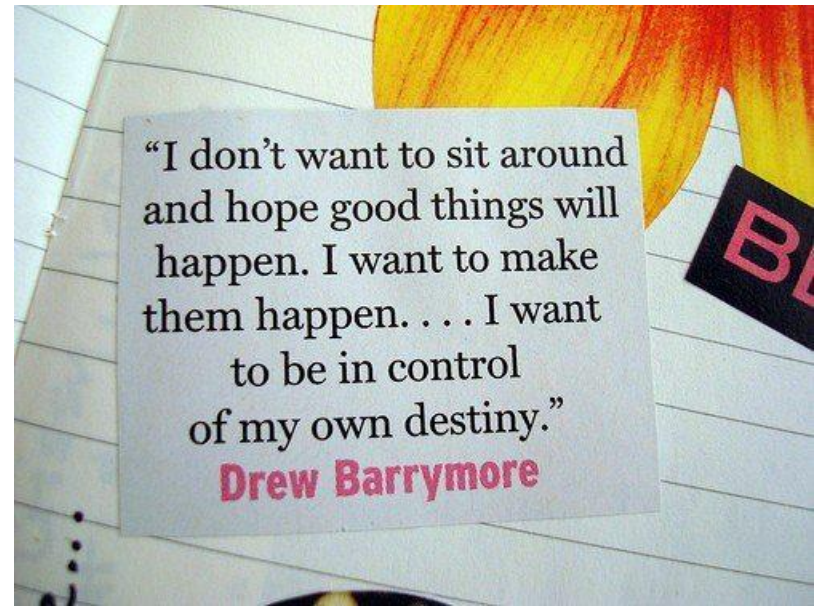
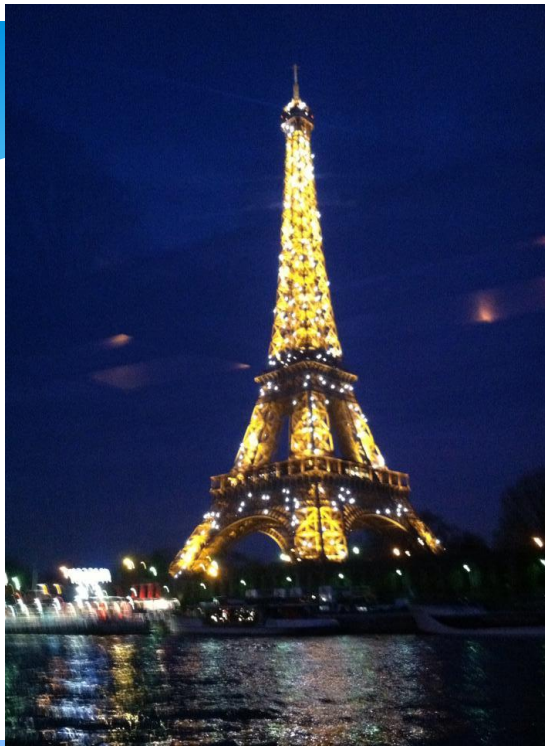
# Leadership in Advocacy Training

- \* I was a youth peer mentor for The Alliance of Disability Advocates.
- \* As a youth peer mentor, I went to High Schools in Wake County and I taught the students about becoming self-advocates. I also helped teach them about disability history.
- \* Part of my LEND plan was to do work with Project STIR (Steps Towards Independence and Responsibility) and part of what I would do is teach students in OCS classes to become better advocates and to know that there are options.



# My goals going forward

- \* I do hope to move to Washington, DC or Boston, MA.
- \* I do hope to have my book published and write articles.
- \* Attend University of Boston, MA and attend The Eunice Shriver Kennedy Research Center. Maybe do some work with The Association of University Centers on Disability
- \* Travel abroad and in The US.





# Looking Back, Looking Forward

- \* 1990
- \* ADA
- \* ABLE ACT

# Contact Information

- \* My email address is [kkelty561@gmail.com](mailto:kkelty561@gmail.com)
- \* My Facebook is Kenneth Kelty Public Speaker and Author.

