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DAWN RUDOLPH:

Hi everyone. This is Dawn Rudolph from the UCEDD Resource Center at AUCD. We welcome you to the final and fourth session for the... We are very pleased to kick off this final session with a panel of advocates from across the network. I am most pleased to introduce Shawn Aleong who many of us know and love. Our young man who wears multiple hats, including disability and civil rights activist. A sophomore student at Temple University, studying legal studies, real estate and financial Senior advisor to Temple student government, while also sitting on the board of advisors for Temple Institute board of disabilities to stop the Internet disability rights Pennsylvania, and a member of the NAACP.

Previously, Sean was a member of the police advisory committee, and the Board of Directors for the The Arc of Philadelphia. Sean, thank you for being here and to moderate this panel. I am very happy to turn it over to you to introduce the other panelists.

SHAWN ALEONG:

Okay, the first, let me just say thank you Dawn for that wonderful introduction. For those who is on the call, who need a description of me, I am a black man with glasses. I have on a black polo, and I am in a conference room. So, right now I am going to introduce our esteemed guests. Starting with Gabriel Martinez, (indiscernible) for the Sonoran Center for Excellence in Disabilities and Santa Perez, chair of the Nevada's Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities. I want to thank y'all for both being here today, so that we can have an important discussion on breaking new grounds.

So, let's get right into it. For my first question for you both, what is your approach to listen? And how were you and (indiscernible) to the president committee for intellectual disability? Two minutes each.

SANTA PEREZ:

I am a firm believer in full inclusion, so that everyone needs to be heard. We all have our unique ways of speaking and expressing ourselves. We need to be patient to understand each other.

SHAWN ALEONG:

Okay, thank you. Gabe, (indiscernible) about you.

GABRIEL MARTINEZ:

Hi everyone, I am Gabe Martinez. I am (indiscernible) for the UCEDD. I am here to speak about what we can do and live by example. That means, if there is a problem with an individual what will help them as a good leader and follow instructions. And also they speak to their team, make them know what they can do. Tell the people don't give up, and you can do better next time. If the team wins, we go celebrate. I am on the president (indiscernible) committee for people with intellectual disabilities. I want to teach individuals what they can do to be better leaders themselves. What they can do to find some jobs. (Indiscernible) to support people, the people are having problems that wanted to get out and just to see... We can make some changes with it.

SHAWN ALEONG:

Thank you both for your answers.

(Phone ringing)

DAWN RUDOLPH:

Sean was joining and a phone call came in and interrupted the zoom connection at the same time. We will give it a minute to reset. While Shawn is working to get his way back in, Gabe or Santa, I would certainly (indiscernible) to share thoughts that you have or wanted to share about your leadership style and what that means in a UCEDD network.

Did I see Shawn come back in? The folks are working to bring Shawn back in. I feel like Santa is preparing a message for us. We see a comment in the checkbox from Santa., "It is so important for people with develop mental disabilities and intellectual disabilities to get involved in all aspects."

Santa, that has been a topic that we have been talking a lot about, even in previous days of this meeting, about how people with disabilities can get involved in all of the work that UCEDD's do. From research, to beyond research and being part of communication. Making sure that communications are understood by everybody. And helping define what is important to people with disabilities, so that the UCEDD's are responding to those needs.

I'm going to pause this again, because once again I saw Shawn...

SHAWN ALEONG:

So sorry. Can y'all hear me?

DAWN RUDOLPH:

We can hear you, Shawn. Welcome back.

SHAWN ALEONG:

Yo, I don't know what just happened, but you gotta love technology, right?

DAWN RUDOLPH:

Gotta love technology, it's a fact. Thank you for being patient and flexible and coming back to us

DAWN RUDOLPH:

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SHAWN ALEONG:

I am so sorry about that. This is so embarrassing. Don't knock there is no need to be embarrassed. We all have experienced getting kicked out of Zoom meetings. It is a shared experience.

SHAWN ALEONG:

So, where do you want me to pick back up? Where I left off?

DAWN RUDOLPH:

That sounds like a perfect plan.

SHAWN ALEONG:

As I was saying, real fast, as someone who is also part of the President Committee, I would want to use my (indiscernible) to inform the administration what really needs to be done, so that we can progress as a nation for those who have disabilities. Because I believe that we cannot call this a full democracy unless all people is being included. So my job as someone who has an (indiscernible) advocate, will make sure that those voices is also being heard from that perspective.

So, I am going to go to the next question. In this areaâ€¦ I'm sorry, in this meeting we are going to talk about three emerging areas, common trains -- traits and emergency preparedness. -- Climate change and emergency preparedness. Cross-sector Housing Collaborations, and Leveraging Emerging Technologies.

What is needed to move this forward? Synthesis that we start with what you did the last time, how do we wanted to go this time? -- Want it

GABRIEL MARTINEZ:

OK, for this person that Shawn said, for me for climate change and emergency preparedness, they had to prepare what they are going to do in the future.

It is a lot of planning for housing. If people are having problems with finding a house and getting an apartment, we will help make the changes -- make good changes. For technology, if they do not have a laptop or a phone, what are they going to do to back one? -- To buy one? You need to communicate with people, because people are having problems with buying a laptop or a phone.

People with intellectual disabilities have a hard time with accessing technology. Right? As a leader, they will need partners to help with these issues.

If they need to be partners with people with intellectual disabilities as people who need help.

SHAWN ALEONG:

And now we will go to you Miss Perez for the same question.

SANTA PEREZ:

(Typing) I think the pandemic we started a new and equal playing field. -- Really started a new and equal playing field. It allowed us to showcase our abilities.

Everyone was expensing soon, and adapting to new ways of communicating -- everyone was expensing zoom. This is something that people with intellectual disabilities, and people with this abilities have been doing all of their lives. This is not new to us. -- Experiencing zoom.

SHAWN ALEONG:

And you will no what -- and you all know whatâ€¦ Santa, you bring up a good point! Because I

remember a lot of people used to say that, "Oh, we can't make our stuff accessible." But then when the pandemic hit, -- hit, they make that. They make it accessible for their employees.

So now! I think that there is no excuse! That they can! I think that there is no excuse. And to just talk about emergency preparedness, I think they need to be egg knowledgeable -- knowledgeable about emergency preparedness for people with disabilities during a pandemic.

If the pandemic happened now, do we have the resources for those who have intellectual disabilities? Do you have the resources? The manpower -- do we have the resources?, To get the PPE, to get the medical assistant -- assistance? Without that, those with intellectual disabilities are put on the back burner!

Because see, a lot of times what happens is people think about everything by the book. But when it comes to those who have intellectual disabilities, we always need the (indiscernible), they need to be knowledgeable about emergency preparedness for those with intellectual disabilities. And! And as far as Allison, I think we need to start teaming up with these multimillionaire housing developing companies -- development companies, to see if they can sit outside some of the units for those who have disabilities.

I mean that is just my opinion. Like! So. Thank you all for your questions -- I mean for your answers. Now let's move on to question number three.

"What are the -- what other emergency areas do you think UCEDD's need to address?" Since the last time! I will let this prize go first this time -- I will let Santa Perez go first this time.

SANTA PEREZ:  
(Typing)

SHAWN ALEONG:  
So! Do you want to go first? So! OK. What are the ideas or suggestions that you have for the UCEDD's?

GABRIEL MARTINEZ:  
On my side, I think UCEDD's should hire more people with intellectual disabilities. It would make it helpful for a person to learn more skills in a job. It will help the UCEDD with the skills, like webinars helping with projects. In staff meetings -- and staff meetings for the UCEDD's are therefore better for the people when they have people with experiences in the jobs.

SANTA PEREZ:  
Still on it. (Typing)

SHAWN ALEONG:  
We have three more minutes. What I'm going to say really fast, I think all UCEDD's should get together and put together a UCEDD pandemic team. So that for just in case, if this happens again, we will be prepared. You will have your resources, you will have your PPE.

And I think we should have our own Scott Powell (unknown term) for those who have

disabilities. It is just my opinion. I think this is all the time we have for this panel? I will turn it back over to John.

DAWN RUDOLPH:

They get so much John -- Shawn, but I want to make sure everyone saw the note that Santa typed into our chat box! The question was what should UCEDD's prioritize? And Santa Perez's response is "Inclusion, inclusion, inclusion. Really listen to what people want."

Shawn do not worry a moment about the technology glitches, we all experience it. We are really pleased to start up the session today with your voices, with your perspectives, and with your leadership. Thank you for your leadership owing into the presidential committee for people with intellectual disabilities -- for going into.

We appreciate receiving your advice, guidance and direction as well. Centre there is a question in our checkbox about where your book is available? So if you don't mind dropping a note in our checkbox, that would be wonderful.

Amazon (Laughs) I should've guessed that. Okay, so let me share my screen again. We are going to shift from the panel discussion into a series of breakouts. Shawn, Santa and gave, joined the breakouts as well. -- Shawn.

Climate change in emergency preparedness, leveraging emergency technologies, certainly a hot topic, not just because of the pandemic, but also in technologies that are becoming more available and supporting more independent living. Also, cross sector housing collaborations. We -- recommend the ACL's housing and services Center. The breakouts again will be self select. In each breakout, there will be presentations as well as discussions. It is not just the same format as the previous ones. Each breakout will be recorded. Again, you are welcome to pop back and forth to all of them if you would like.

The breakout rooms are on your screen. You will have to scroll all the way down to the bottom to find the ones that you will have to -- wanted to join. If you click the button to join and end up in the wrong room, fear not. It is because the buttons move around as people start joining the rooms.

We will see you back here in the main room afterwards.