

Vision Statement for 2019 AUCD Board Nominees

Name of Candidate: Jeiri Flores

AUCD Member Organization: University of Rochester's LEND & UCEDD

Current Position (role and date range):

UCEDD - Self Advocacy Specialist (3months)

LEND - Self Advocacy Discipline Coordinator (3 years)

Total Years Employed/Active in an AUCD Member Center or Program: 5 years

2 years - LEND Trainee

3 years - LEND Faculty

My vision for the Association:

AUCD is already an amazing association if elected I'd like to further support the efforts currently being made to not only spotlight advocacy but powerful advocates. I envision this association creating a dream team of advocates who not only present at AUCD but nationwide; as well as growing a platform for self-advocates of color. Most importantly I foresee AUCD setting the tone for the importance and power of self-advocacy amongst its networks and programs.

What I would like to accomplish on the Board:

If elected it would be my goal to build upon the long-standing effort and strides the advocates before me have made. I'd like to further the conversations/ideas on how to better serve the self-advocates who complete LEND programs. It would be my goal to increase recruitment and participation from the self and family advocacy trainees. I'd like to also continue the conversations and efforts in regards to race, equity, and power.

How I have demonstrated and continue to demonstrate leadership in the network:

Over the last couple of years, it has been my goal to grow as a self-advocate within this network, my local UCEDD and LEND program. I have successfully completed AUCD's Leadership Academy, I've hosted AUCD's award ceremony, presented a poster at last years conference and last summer I returned to AUCD's Leadership Academy where I with others created and facilitated a workshop on power, privilege, and oppression.

Locally I have pushed my LEND program to revamp how we discuss and teach our fellows about advocacy. I have challenged my colleagues to lead with advocacy when possible and to remember how powerful advocacy can be. I have also asked our director and training director to help our advocacy team create a mutually beneficial relationship between our program and our self-advocacy fellows.

Return to: Laura Martin via email at lmartin@aucd.org no later than COB Monday, September 23rd.