

MAUREEN JOHNSON:

Hello and welcome to the emerging leaders end of the year webinar. My name is Maureen Johnson, I am the program specialist for the Maternal and Child Health technical assistance team at AUCD. I coordinate all of the activities at the emerging leaders community. We would like to thank you all for joining us today.

Before we begin, I would like to address a few logistical details. You will be muted throughout the webinar, but please feel free to submit any questions throughout in the chat. For those just joining us, please feel free to introduce yourself and tell us where you are coming from in the chat.

There will be time for questions throughout the presentation, and at that point you can also unmute yourself. But all questions will also be read aloud to accommodate all attendees. We do have cart captioning available, and if you would like to access it you can click the CC button.

This webinar is being recorded and will be available after the event.

First, as mentioned in the promotions, this is a celebration. I even have some balloons just to commemorate this time. We made it to the end of another academic year! I just want to really hold the point that we made it, despite all the challenges of this year. You all have done some amazing work.

I would love if you put in the chat whether you are graduating, if you are continuing at another program. Let us know! In the meantime, I am going to also read out where people are joining us from. We have Orlando and Chicago joining us. Texas as well. Thank you all so much for joining us.

Our agenda for this webinar. We are going to have a great message from AUCD's Executive Director, John Tschida. Then we will have a panel of our emerging leaders, who are going to tell us some of the things they took away from this year.

Then we are going to talk about what happens next, when it is the end of the year. And give us some tips, whether you are continuing or going to be graduating. Then we will talk about how you can stay connected and stay involved in the emerging leaders community. Our emerging leaders interns will give their reflections, and then we will have some time for questions.

As I mentioned, our emerging leaders are here today. I would like to point it to Kiki to introduce herself.

KIKI OYETUNJI:

Thanks, Maureen. My name is Kiki Oyetunji, and as a graduating second-year from the University of Kansas medical Centre and the AUCD emerging events intern, I'm very excited to be finishing up my experience as I become a psychiatry resident at the University of Missouri Kansas City beginning in June.

JESSICA HUDDLESTON:

I am going to be a fourth-year Doctor of audiology student at the University of Oklahoma. I will be doing my internship at the State Department of health.

MAUREEN JOHNSON:

Thank you for those great introductions. And now to introduce -- AUCD's Executive Director, John Tschida.

JOHN TSCHIDA:

Thanks Maureen, and welcome everyone. I want to start by adding my congratulations to all of you, especially those of you who have graduated from your training programs, but also to those of you who are long-term trainers, who will continue.

Congratulations on the successful completion of the academic year. I also want to thank our AUCD Emerging Leaders interns, Kiki and Jessica, and Maureen Johnson on our staff for putting together this fantastic event.

Regardless of your next step, whether a self advocate or parent, someone just starting your first job, continuing with your training, or still in the same job. You now have the tools, training and disability competency to be leaders and educators, regardless of your chosen profession.

We can all lead from where we are, whether we are in formal positions of authority or not. I know this may be a bittersweet time, when graduating, for those of you who are. You have accomplished much, but our celebrations look different for those of us still operating in virtual space.

For many of you, you can't share that collective happiness the same way, but this is still in accomplishment worth celebrating. You are now part of a much larger community committed to the same values and opportunities for peoples with disabilities that you discussed during your training. Please, do stay engaged with the AUCD network. It is a powerful, generous, and diverse group of people and centres. In every state and territory. Made up of people with disabilities, family members, educators, researchers, trainers, and clinicians.

Reach out, connect with them. Learn from them. Use those connections to help advance your own career interest. And use us and our resources at the AUCD office in Washington. You can participate in one of our five councils, or join one of many special interest groups.

You will hear from and interact with national leaders in the field. We remain committed as a network to training tomorrow's leaders. And we have a strong history of mentorship and shared knowledge, especially for emerging leaders.

At AUCD, we are committed to supporting you and the network in any way that we can. I promised Maureen I would be brief, so I will close by again saying, congratulations to all of you

at the end of this academic year. And also, thank you for becoming trainers. We need more leaders in the disability field, but we need leaders in any field who understand the disability experience.

Yes, this has been leadership training, but it is done in disability context. It is done in an interdisciplinary context. Recognizing that there are many factors that must be considered in order to achieve (inaudible) for people with disabilities. That knowledge can be applied in just about any profession.

Thank you, congratulations. And I look forward to hearing next from our panel of emerging leaders.

MAUREEN JOHNSON:

Thank you so much John for that lovely message. Now, I will turn it to our emerging leaders intern, Kiki.

KIKI OYETUNJI:

Thank you so much for those words of wisdom John, some of which will resonate with me. And I am sure everyone here for a long time, as we continue our journey as emerging leaders in the disability field.

I'm thrilled to introduce our panel of speakers for today. Jennifer Crawford, who is a lone Star trainee. Christi Crosby, Kathryn Goffin from Kennedy Krieger Institute, and Anjali Rao, a DBP fellow from the Institute of disability and human development.

I will handed over to Jessica to moderate this session of the webinar, by asking the panelists pertinent questions for our benefit.

JESSICA HUDDLESTON:

Thank you, Kiki. I am excited to have these four leaders that present a wide variety of perspectives with us today. For the sake of time, we have two different questions I'm point to ask each to two people. I will start this off.

My first question is to Kathryn. What skills did you take away that you can expect to?

KATHRYN GOFFIN:

Hello everyone. One scale that I really took away was how to advocate in so many different areas for families and children who have develop mental disabilities, and really find resources outside of my program and my clinic in my area, and make sure that families are really connected.

This is actually my second year doing LEND, I have been a LEND training at the University of Iowa previously. Last year, and now at Kennedy Krieger this year. Just learning different systems in Iowa versus Maryland has been crazy. I feel like I learned so much about how to

move to a new state, find the resources needed. Because I will have to do that if I need to move again, and I don't have a LEND. It has been amazing learning how to work a different system, navigate a different state. That is really what I took away, the skill that I learned.

JESSICA HUDDLESTON:

Thank you. That is something we all learn, it seems like. There are different resources available in different ways to access. Those are definitely valuable skills. Anjali, I wanted to ask you the same questions. What skills did you take away that you didn't expect to?

ANJALI RAO:

I am making a midcareer shift from General pediatrics to (inaudible) pediatrics. Learning how to be both a mentor and mentee, a leader and a follower, and when to do which was really a skill that I needed to hone in on and take away.

I found that I am better at giving than asking, so becoming a good mentee is I think very important for us as leaders. And in learning how to have the courage and the resilience to make those connections with those who have shared values and can move us on that trajectory, I think was really important.

Moving my mindset from the one of the medical model to one that really had a disability focus, and how to, in an interdisciplinary way, help others around me do the same was also a skill that I have taken away, and will continue to work on in the future.

JESSICA HUDDLESTON:

Great, thank you so much. For our second question, I want to turn it first to Jennifer. What advice would you give to other trainees or fellows with similar professional interests or goals as you?

JENNIFER CRAWFORD:

As John was saying in his speech, be engaged. Be a part of the community. Being part of the unity is being all in. When I was accepted to come onto this AUCD Emerging Leaders program, I decided to be all in. I will be engaged, I will be authentic. And I will participate. I will participate in all the assignments that are given, because I'm going to learn something from them. There is a purpose to what I am doing, and what I need to learn in my community.

Also, getting to interact on the monthly calls with the other Emerging Leaders was engaging, it was refreshing to hear some of the same struggles that we may be going through. But in the positive things; Jessica always did a great job of asking us little icebreaker questions. We have never met anyone! We haven't met. It was a way of really being authentic, and being your true self.

Make a connection, I have made some great connections with other individuals that helped with my service-learning project. Join SIG group. I have joined one of the autism SIG groups,

and if you can attend the events that are free, take advantage of that! I have been told my hobby is learning. For me, that was just wonderful. Be a part of it. The best thing you can do in this program, in the AUCD, is be all in. I look forward to continuing to be a part of this environment and this community, and learning to grow as a leader in my field.

JESSICA HUDDLESTON:

Thank you, Jennifer. I loved getting to connect with everyone on the calls. It was a really great opportunity to expand our network when we couldn't travel. I wanted to ask Christi the same question. What advice would you give to other trainees or fellows with similar interests?

CHRISTI CROSBY:

... Making connections here. To be an advocate, and getting connected with everything. They can happen at the movie theatre, or (inaudible), but when you are connected, you can go to other people. You can make friends. It's all about connecting, and being... I know a lot of... Once I do it, I am happy I did it. And getting to know people.

JESSICA HUDDLESTON:

All of our panelists have gotten to know people by putting themselves out there and we are all better for meeting people that are like us and also have very different interests than us. I had a follow-up question, to the second question if Christy and Jennifer could answer. Will you be doing in the fall of 2021? are you continuing as a trainee or starting an internship or what are some things that you will be up to?

JENNIFER R. CRAWFORD:

I will still be continuing to advocate for all individuals with special needs, so I do that in my community by also just educating parents. So that is one thing that I will be doing and I just... I'm kind of looking to see, we are in the state of Texas, and I'm looking to see that there are some big changes that are going on right now with some of our education systems. So I'm to be advocating and I'm going to be looking to see what is the best fit for me, in the role that I can use my best skill set for helping people with individuals – Mike individuals with disabilities.

JESSICA HUDDLESTON:

I have no doubt about that. I know you are passionate about that. Chris did you have anything that you'd like to add to that?

CHRISTI CROSBY:

I had to unmute it. I'm going to run a foundation it's called the (Name) foundation to support education... And one of the things we are going to be doing, we want to (Inaudible) and I'm talking about helping people with the disability and during Covid-19 we have found a lot of people getting to become a caretaker of the people with disabilities and many of them focused on.... But what happens when you turn 21 and all of those connections are gone. So that is going to be my main focus....

JESSICA HUDDLESTON:

Great I can't wait to hear more about that Christie when it gets going. Catherine and Angeli did you have anything that you wanted to share about 2020, 2021.

ANJALI RAO:

I can do that quickly . I apologize if a dog barked my background. I still have a couple more years of my developmental and behavioural training, and I will be continuing with that training. I have really been inspired and motivated to get more involved with national organizations, national professional organizations for pre--- pediatricians for developmental pediatricians. I think we have an opportunity to shape the future of medical students and pediatric residents, nurse practitioners, PAs, a myriad of primary care pediatric providers that I get to work with and help to educate, a lot of people are really starved and wanting and as soon as they hear about disability studies, and disability education there like oh my goodness I had no idea. And so I'm really trying to help the people grow, almost everyone who is dedicated to going into the medical field in any capacity, has this drive, has this passion, has this desire to help others and they sometimes don't even realize what they don't know. It's really helping people realize what they don't know and gain the education is a passion of mine.

JESSICA HUDDLESTON:

KATHERYN Goffin:

Can you guys hear me? I will be moving on to a postdoctoral fellowship. I will actually be staying here but I will also be, I've been talking about trying to work with her medical legal partnership that we have here to help advocate for our families who have children with disabilities in the school systems. So, trying to just pay it forward.

JESSICA HUDDLESTON:

Great. That is awesome I love to hear from you guys. At this point, I will turn it back over to Maureen.

MAUREEN JOHNSON:

Thank you Jessica and I also want to point out that if there's any other questions that any attendees want to ask our panelists, feel free to put it in the chat or else you can raise your hand in the webinar console. (Name) would you like to ask a question?

SPEAKER:

Sorry Maureen I was wondering if you are asking if you could view the PowerPoint slide? I was saying yes.

MAUREEN JOHNSON:

No problem. Any other questions for our panelists? going once, going twice. Okay if you have any other questions you can feel free to put it in the chat and we can get them towards the end. But again I want to thank all of our panelists for joining us. It was really insightful to hear

what you took away from your training experience and I hope some of you were nodding their heads as well and resonating with what they were saying. So I'm going to go ahead into the next part of our presentation.

So, now I'm going to talk more about what is next? so whether you are graduating or continuing to another program, we have some tips for you that can be helpful. So first, make sure that you are updating your resume, and if you have not already, please create a LinkedIn profile. AUCD actually has an emerging leaders LinkedIn group that you can join us and really get more information about upcoming events, that are related to your interest or even job announcements or fellowship announcements. Next, make sure that you are planning & back placing your training experience on your resume. This is fantastic opportunity that you are in, it's an intensive leadership experience so you don't want to miss out of putting this on your resume and make sure that you are selling out all of the acronyms. We want to suggest that you connect with your program staff, and faculty and also your peers. The networking can even elevate you to find your next career or find your next collaboration. And then finally prepare an elevator speech. Will explain what you have learned in your program. Any concept or skills they have learned that can be marketed.

Now, specifically, for outgoing trainees, and current trainees, can use this as well is really explaining what it means to be a trainee or a fellow at your program so whether you are at it DDP, and IDD RC you set, make sure that you are explaining that to those who are outside of this community that are not familiar with these programs. This could be as simple as making sure that you are noting activities and projects that you have completed. So are you part of a seminar? did you do research papers? did you have to collate a community service requirement? did you have to meet a certain amount of hours? did you submit a portfolio? these are all things that would be humble to know for future employers. And then finally, research what your program's goals or objectives are? this could really help you understand how to market the program. For example, lens, -- LEND there are funded by (Name) for training in autism and develop mental disabilities. So really having those concrete goals and perspectives of the program can really help you to talk about that program with those that are not familiar.

And so for our continuing trainees, continue to apply for those leadership positions. I know that there are some positions at your programs that are specifically for those that are in advanced trainees or long-term trainees as you call them. Then consider your lessons learned. There's this great article from the Journal of higher education that really talks about taking the time to reflect and really understand your areas of improvement, what more can you learn, and then finally, again, meet with your program staff or faculty for guidance in your career. Or whatever professional interests that you would like to continue to do.

So with that I will leave it to Kiki to talk about our emerging leaders map.

KIKI OYETUNJI:

Thank you Maureen, I am so excited to announce that the emerging leaders map is now live. We have showcased emerging leaders in their ongoing work within and future contributions to their communities. By protecting the rights of people with disabilities and access services and in accordance with this year's map theme, these emerging leaders have gained a spot for themselves on the map. The theme this year is all about promoting equity, people with disabilities, and you are very much welcome to visit the link which should be in the chat. Just to browse and see what some of our wonderful emerging leaders are doing across the country, within their communities and in their centres.

You will explore the map either by clicking on the caps within the origin circles, searching by trainees or discipline or centre and join the responses to the questions around this year's theme to find similar interests, goals and project ideas.

We have 53 trainees from a variety of disciplines, highlighted on the map, representing 38 different programs with more than 70% of people who have lived experiences or who can identify with a disability in a family member.

So, before moving on, to this particular slide, I know that there are, there are emerging leader nominees today who would love to share their responses to how equity is and how it relates to their projects and experiences within their projects or within their communities but within the meantime, I would like to share some of the profiles that stood out to me. I know that Ida Winters is here and while she is a nominee and is at LEND training, and a person with a disability and she has a family navigator in her role as an advocate, she advocates to ensure the integration of systems of care across the state lines. Which we know is very critical to health equity. Another one that stood out to me was Ernesto (Name). He's an advocate advocate for mental health services and fighting the stigma that comes with that and he considers health equity to mean access equality, care, whether it is health, nutrition, environment or the environment with a live. I don't know if there's nominees who have spotlighted themselves in the chat Maureen?

MAUREEN JOHNSON:

Thank you Kiki. Like he said we invite our nominees to raise their hands so that we can spotlight them and they can just introduce themselves and talk more but themselves.

[Tiffany. is Live]

MAUREEN JOHNSON:

Feel free to unmute yourself. Yes, Jennifer is also on the map, and Sue.

JENNIFER CRAWFORD:

One of the things with equity that I was looking into, and working with, is that starting out with the younger... Younger with the children in the homes of daycare providers and everything. I

have recently become what is called a certified child healthcare consultant. We can talk about the mental health and the social emotional learning for all the children involved.

That was very important for me to start out young, as Ernesto says, with the stigma. If we start out talking young to the children, it won't be a stigma hopefully. In a few more years, it will be an acceptance. That is something that I would really like to continue to highlight for everyone on the emerging leaders map.

MAUREEN JOHNSON:

Thanks Jennifer, I also see Wendy is on the map. For those who are on the map and want to be spotlighted, if you show your video, I will be able to spotlight you.

SPEAKER:

Hi, I am Wendy Spoon, and I am with the Oklahoma Lend program. I am finishing up and will be a fellow. I appreciate the opportunity to be recognized in this way, and through my journey this year, I have found that policy is of great interest to me and my daughter, who is also a self advocate.

We have begun working with the ark of Oklahoma to write articles and talk with legislators. And make strides in policy change, and system change. And that is what has emerged for us throughout this year. Very grateful for the opportunity to do so. I was also able to serve as a communication and training liaison, and write articles for the AUCD 360. That helped me to hone those writing skills, and make a difference when it comes to policy.

MAUREEN JOHNSON:

Thank you! I see Shannen had raised her hand?

SPEAKER:

This is Shannon Rivas from Arkansas. I am a graduate of the program in Arkansas. Recently, I have been taking part in self advocacy stuff. We did a policy thing on the forum that we did last fall, on what self advocates mean to us. I have 23 years of experience. As a self advocate, I will help others learn how to make decisions themselves.

I am currently involved with this training exchange program for Arkansas, Oklahoma, Mississippi. I am taking part in the clinics as well. May 21, we are going to have LEND program for the Southwest region. I have been working on the newsletter for alumna for former trainees as well.

MAUREEN JOHNSON:

Thank you! I see people wanted to go next. In the interest of time, we will do a couple more of our nominees. Feel free to talk more about the work you are doing in the chat as well. As I get a chance to spotlight and show you all the nominees that are here with us.

SPEAKER:

Thank you, Maureen. My name is Hibo Omer, I am a trainee in New Hampshire mainland. And mostly, part of my passion was always for new immigrants who came here, we have a lot of children with disabilities that are always kept at home. I see myself as a catalyst so those kids get services early on, especially those who are getting where parents can be involved.

And see themselves also, that they are important in the IEP meetings. There is that disconnect, and it became a passion of mine. Now, since I was involved in LEND policy became something that I am involved in as well. I came a long way since the first semester that I started, because I come from a place where getting involved with politics is something that is fearful.

Today, I was just facilitating with one of our representatives – with putting something that I wanted, lead poisoning is something that many of our kids here are being exposed to. To kind of talk about that, and have a place. I see myself as a catalyst, beyond my voice, I am a voice for the voiceless. I have, I feel like, a responsibility. So that the community can be engaged. Thank you.

MAUREEN JOHNSON:

Thank you! We have time for one more person. How about Sue?

SPEAKER:

Hi! Thank you, Maureen, and thank you all, it is nice to meet you guys. I am from the LEND program at Cincinnati Children's Hospital. And in collaboration with the University of Cincinnati, I just graduated from my LEND program. I am an occupational therapist, and this has been an amazing experience. I knew about advocacy, but I didn't know what I could do.

I was able to find my voice, and figure out ways to improve patient care. As a new practitioner, you are really trying to find yourself and figure out how you can make an impact on the community. Through LEND, I was able to work with the research team and a local homelessness organization to create a trauma informed toolkit for staff to better serve the homeless population here in Cincinnati.

I was able to learn about how I could be an advocate for the community, but also in my work and personal life as well. It is so great to be surrounded by all of these other leaders, and I wish you all the best of luck in everything else that you keep doing.

MAUREEN JOHNSON:

Thank you so much, Sue! There are too many nominees to spotlight them all, but I do want to give everyone around of applause for the great work that has been done this year. We didn't let anything stop us this year from all the hours and the projects, and making sure parents and self advocates are involved.

If you can, put the reaction emoji to the hands clap, please. The link to the map is in the chat, and I will also share it on the screen. Again, thank you to all of our emerging leaders on the map. I am going to kick it to Kiki to talk again more about the benefits of the map.

KIKI OYETUNJI:

Could you put the slide back on please?

MAUREEN JOHNSON:

No problem.

KIKI OYETUNJI:

As a current or past trainee, you might be wondering what is the value this brings as an emerging leader. One benefit that stands out to me, amongst so many others, is that it is a good visual for how trainees are driving change within their communities. It generates an interest in individual projects that can promote collaboration between programs and centres.

I believe that the network is further integrated with new channels of communication and knowledge sharing processes and policies that we've been talking about for expanding projects, and very, very good ideas. Believe it or not, emerging leaders are the backbone of the network. This is how we begin to do tremendous things in the field of disability, much like we have been sharing for the last few minutes.

Staying connected, getting involved, and breaking down silos, so to speak. Over to Jessica.

JESSICA HUDDLESTON:

Thanks Kiki. I think Anjali said it best in the chat, this is an inspiration hour. It is an awesome way to end a Friday. I wanted to talk about some ways that you can take what you have learned, and stay connected. Although our training year might be ending, or maybe we are just starting back again, we don't have to end the connections we are making.

You can stay connected to people in your centre this year, or through AUCD on social media. That has been a really big benefit through us developing more experiences online. You can click on this link in the PowerPoint presentation in the chat, and that will connect you to AUCD's Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. I think that is really cool. They will continue to amplify voices of people with disabilities and research about people with disabilities all year long.

I would also encourage you to keep in touch with your centre as you have many people invest in your training year. Now it is our turn to pick up the torch and invest in the incoming cohorts. We have a very unique experience, if you have been in LEND during this time, and we can offer that to our cohorts that come after that.

Make sure your training Centre has your permanent email address, not necessarily one that is school related that will go away when you graduate. Make sure they have a way to contact you, because they will send out surveys in two years, and five years to make sure they know all the awesome things that you are doing.

You can also stay plugged into community resources. When I did my LEND experience, I learned about more resources than I ever could have dreamed existed. Those connections that we make don't have to end with our project, they can be ones that we continue volunteering or referring patients to, however we want to do that. There are a lot of opportunities.

You can subscribe to the AUCD newsletter. They get sent out pretty often. There are also listservs you can sign up for based on your interests and profession. Those are great ways to stay connected on upcoming things.

What we are talking about when we want to break down silos, we want to not stay where things happen only at AUCD or at your centre. We have a lot of things that we can do together, and work together, more than we could ever do by ourselves or just as one centre. We encourage you to continue reaching out to the people you met during this year, whether it be online or in person, and continue to do great work together.

Another way if you feel like this has been a really great start, and you want to continue to grow and challenge, is to stay involved through AUCD leadership opportunities. Some of those might be training representatives, so you can serve on those councils. Or Emerging Leader internship. I know we learned a lot, and experienced a lot this year. Or you can serve as a trainee liaison, their role is to connect with each other, but also to share what is happening at your centre with the AUCD.

You got to hear from some of them today, and if you have questions about that, Kiki and I would be happy to answer those in the chat. You can also apply for a second year training opportunity at your centre. If you don't know if that is an opportunity, I would encourage you to talk with your director to develop a program that will help you to develop your growth.

Jennifer was saying she is passionate about continuing to grow and learn all the time, and I think that is something we can all take stop I would encourage you to stay connected with associations that are related to your interest, whether that be a local professional organization or a national organization.

There are so many, if we do what Maureen talked about and share what we are doing, and talk about it. We did really great work this year, so let's talk about it and share with those around us so we can make connections.

You can also join a special interest room. There are way more special interest groups than I ever knew about, but if you click on the link in the PowerPoint or in the chat, you can find different ones you can be a part of. That will continue to share information that is where the targeted to what you are interested in.

If you want, you can look at the AUCD employment page. They update this often. The AUCD employment page is a great place to do that. I will kick it back to Maureen.

MAUREEN JOHNSON:

Speaking of the AUCD employment page, we want you to come work at AUCD! We have an opening for a technical assistance program manager position. This person will be a team lead on projects providing TA to LEND and DBP programs, and to our focused assistance to support training, also called FAST projects, and also to lead our Spanish language caucus.

This person should be bilingual, or have native proficiency in Spanish. Other responsibilities include stakeholder collaboration, program coordination, and data management and analysis. If you think you are the ideal candidates, if you said yes to any of these points on the screen. Whether you have a Masters degree in the development field, -- professional experience, we would love to have you join us. You can send your resume to Dawn Rudolph.

So the next big AUCD event is the virtual conference. A lot of people are able to attend the conference when it's virtual I would love to see every space but given the circumstances, this is really the best way. Given the reduced cost, and regardless of any issues, I think it's a fantastic opportunity. So if you have a proposal, that is good to be due on June 4 and you can learn more information about the conference that. This year's theme is called learning together and connecting research in lived experience.

So now I'm going to turn it over to Kiki and for her to talk about her year. What did you learn this year Kiki?

KIKI OYETUNJI:

Thanks Maureen I am incredibly grateful for my experience in candid land- Kansas land. These are opportunities that I really cannot trade. I appreciate the trainees in my program over the last two years, and one has to be really constant in that time it has been very supportive staff and faculty who have made my experience very meaningful and very memorable. As a requirement by the Kansas land program my work as a trainee is summarized in the portfolio with the we LEED.com website.... Focusing on closing healthcare gaps to children with special health care needs. I'm particularly... I will continue to have ties to my centres and making a difference within my community as I continue to be part of this project even after completing my LEED training. As an AUCD intern, what makes this experience. Unique is the connections that I have made. Christie document the opportunities, I have availed myself within the network and is been truly amazing and I look forward to continuing those roles as the internship comes to an end. As an advanced training, I suppose my most memorable time within the AUCD has been the AUCD conference. First in person and then in virtual format. I definitely enjoyed being on the trainee panel last year and I think that was a fantastic opportunity to engage with people and to share my knowledge in such a little way., In that way I mean. So that is what my experience has been. I don't know what Jessica's experience has been but I'm pretty sure it has been amazing.

JESSICA HUDDLESTON:

Thank you Kiki it's great to hear about all the awesome work that you do this year and to also serve next year. I was also second-year training and so I got to build on the idea that research is not interdisciplinary unless it includes all of the stakeholders at the table from the very beginning. So it's not me as an audiology student or future audiologist working on some research and asking for the perspectives of people with hearing loss, is including those people at this table from the very beginning and that is something that I learned that I will never forget and that had really has changed how I like to do my research. So for my research I focused on kind of explaining despite expanding off of my own experience as a person with hearing loss and working on some accessibility and accommodation readiness experience for our people in the public school but also students in the University setting and specifically the University that I attended. I surveyed faculty to see what their experiences and their knowledge were about accommodating students with hearing loss and it was quite interesting. And from both the public schools and for my university project I'm going to do in services through all the faculties at the largest public school at the University and help me share ideas that they can be more ready to accommodate students with hearing loss so that has been a really great experience. I have met trainees from different disciplines all across the country, through my side – make time as a training liaison and is been great to hear everything that you guys have done, to check in with you every month entity or process from the beginning, all the way through to the end. It is been really valuable. Overall, I think one of the most valuable things that I've taken away from working with Kiki and Jackie and everybody at AUCD is the importance of accessible media. We have been a lot online, this year, but that is something that we will continue so learning how we can do things the way we can do them the best way to make sure they are the most successful for the most people has been really really challenging and exciting to do at the same time.

MAUREEN JOHNSON:

Thank you for sharing Jessica and Kiki. We are towards the end of our webinar. Thank you so much for being our emerging leaders interns this year. They are also helping with the emerging leader community events and activities so when it comes to the map, conference events, such as the preconference orientation or that training.... That Kiki mentioned, it has a workshop for LEND audiology trainees. We had a beginning of the year webinar. We could not have done all of these activities including this one without them. We want to give them another round of applause for their great work. Also another plug that if you are interested in being an emerging leaders in turn, another position will open up shortly in a couple of weeks to just be on the lookout and one way to be on the lookout is to sign up for the list. So as we get to the end of the webinar, I now want to hear from all of you. First, how will you apply the skills and concepts mentioned today in your personal and professional life.? So I will give you a couple of moments just to think of that question and you can feel free to put that in the chat or raise your hand, using the webinar console but first I want to hear from Jessica, what did you learn today that you think you will apply?

JESSICA HUDDLESTON:

I learned some of the great researches! -- resources that are not in Oklahoma. But just in the chat from interacting with people that are having some great resources that we were going on and actually other people that are state that you have that in my state but my state is not. So I really want to have my eyes open to what everyone else is doing so that I can take what works there and maybe bring you back to Oklahoma and share what we are doing in Oklahoma.

MAUREEN JOHNSON:

Thanks Jessica what about you Kiki?

KIKI OYETUNJI:

I think Anjali talks about the transition from you know having a clinical sense to a more of a disability sense or moving from a clinical space to a disability space in that transition. That definitely stood out to me because I think it sort of challenging especially because it's not something that is thought – Mac taught in medical schools or curriculum and I know that my program, that is something that has been incorporated into the disability studies, into the curriculum, so as I said into that world. Into the world of clinical training, I want to be able to have that in the back of my mind constantly as I interact with other residents, attendees, -- attendings, and bringing an awareness to the fact that there are, we are going to come across people who live with disabilities and it is important, that our interaction with them in our management and the way that we refer to them to other providers, so that is something that I am deftly going to learn today.

MAUREEN JOHNSON:

And I see a lot of responses in the chat. Christy says connect connect connect! Shannon says again keep connecting with other self advocates and understanding that self-determination is all about them and decision-making will stop Veronica says her take away is not to be afraid to reach out to colleagues and supervisors, families that I work with and keep connecting and engaging with entity – like interdisciplinary collaboration. When he says relationships and connections, again, that connections again. Sue also mentioned that she is going to keep connecting and educating others and learning. Maria said she will interact with other LEND trainees and continuing to be all in. And a 10 more AUCD events will stop Rafi assess the important of your own voice, and Jones as this is a been an amazing experience and has been an honour to be involved with AUCD and happy to know that AUCD will be around for a while. So we all have the resources to share the advocates for others.

So our last question is there is: there any advice that you would like to share with the next cohort of emerging leaders?... So as you think about this question, Kiki what advice do you have?

KIKI OYETUNJI:

I think my advice would be to just not be far away from the network. I almost feel like, with my training, even outside of my LEND training I still have a connection with the network. And I am moving on from this into another space or into another field but I want to be able to continue to have those ties so even as you leave your program, and as you leave your Centre, find a way

to stay connected. Because I know that those experiences, that you bring from your training or that you continue to bring from your training and your experience, with your connection with your program or even the AUCD, is going to transfer to your next space or to your next endeavour that you are going to be going to. So just stay connected to the network and your program or your centre.

MAUREEN JOHNSON:

And as we had to the end of the webinar, Jessica do you want to share any advice that you have real quick?

JESSICA HUDDLESTON:

I think the biggest piece of advice is that really see her LEND training time as not just a year, but at the beginning of something new whenever Kiki and I transition out of this role, I know that we will still be very connected to the ACD network and the disability research that is happening in our field so, I think when I shifted my mindset from just a year to the beginning of a new chapter, that is how I do think and see thing and that really helped myself a lot.

MAUREEN JOHNSON:

Thank you. So I just want to make sure to get some of these advice in the chat. Joanne said learn as much as you can and connect with us other disability organizations. That is right as well. Maria says knowing that you all have our support and keep learning as we move forward and always you AUCD as a resource. And Jenna says is her own voice. Veronica says that her advice would be to stay engaged especially if it's with a resume format and keep talking in the chat. I meet yourselves and keep asking questions. And that is a great point end on.

Thank you for joining us today and we want to hear from you about how this webinar went today and how many other activities you would like AUCD to do for trainees or if you're going to be an alumni trainee. So we have that link in the chat as well. This webinar has been recorded and a transcript will be available of the recording in about 3 to 5 business days. And finally I want to say thank you to our funders, so we are funded by Administration on community living and by the maternal and child health bureau. So again I want to thank all of our panelists, our emerging leaders entrance. John, our executive director, and all of our emerging leaders on the map and all of our attendees who came to this event. And our webinar. I know there's a lot of great tips and tricks in the chat so we hope that you will take this with you into your future in general. So have a lovely weekend because it is Friday.