Elevator Speech Template

Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and I am \_\_\_\_\_\_\_(relationship to disability community)\_\_\_\_\_\_. I am from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_(university program name – LEND/UCEDD/IDDRC or other )\_\_\_\_\_\_. I have experience with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. I care about\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

I would like to tell you more about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_(a specific bill or initiative)\_\_\_\_\_ because it will \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(how it will help me and/or people with disabilities)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Specifically, this \_\_\_\_\_\_(bill or initiative)\_\_\_\_\_\_ will \_\_\_\_\_(give facts or numbers)\_\_\_\_\_. Thank you very much for your time.

My example:

Hi, my name is Meghan Jones, and I am a Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrician. I am a trainee in the California Leadership Education and Neurodevelopmental Disabilities program. I diagnose and treat children with autism and other developmental disabilities. I and others in my field are concerned about the significant shortage of physicians who are trained and comfortable treating both children and adults with disabilities which is leading to very long waitlists to access healthcare. In California, there is often a three-to-four-month waitlist before someone can get an appointment. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has documented that the number of people with developmental disabilities are rapidly increasing. The CDC documented that the percentage of children aged 3–17 years diagnosed with a developmental disability increased–from 16.2% in 2009–2011 to 17.8% in 2015–2017

It is because of this that I would like to tell you more about the Healthcare Extension and Accessibility for Developmentally Disabled and Underserved Population Act (H.R. 1234) which has been introduced in the House of Representatives by Rep. Seth Moulton and Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick. This bill would designate people with developmental disabilities as an underserved population by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The bill would allow higher reimbursement rates for physicians to care for people with developmental disabilities as well as allow for more loan forgiveness opportunities for physicians entering certain fields, such as mine. This would encourage more physicians to provide healthcare treatment for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

*(Quote from a D.C. long-time advocate. “Data makes you credible, stories make you memorable”…if you can, try to include both in your elevator speech.)*