

Opening Space for New Voices to LeadIt DOES take a Village



www.PPMD.org



Objectives for today:

- Learn strategies for engaging families and youth at all levels, especially underserved voices;
- Learn how to engage Parent and Youth serving organizations.



Presenters



Marlo Lemon
Director of Training



Rene Averitt-Sanzone
Executive Director

PPMD Mission

Our mission is to empower families as advocates and partners in improving education and health outcomes for children with disabilities and special healthcare needs with a commitment to diversity and equity.



Who is PPMD?

- Maryland's Special Education & Health Information Center
- Established in 1990
- Governed by parents
- Our team is made up of 100% parents and family members who have children with disabilities and special health care needs



PPMD helps families...

- Better understand their children's disabilities, education, and health care needs
- Communicate more effectively with schools, doctors, related professionals, and agencies
- Understand their rights & responsibilities under special education law and regulations
- Understand their rights & benefits in health care systems
- Obtain appropriate services for their children
- Resolve disagreements with the school or other agencies



Our Why



Engaging Families at the State Level

- NTA CT TA Site
- State Advisory Transition Committee (SATC) was formed;
- SATC today



Engaging Families at the State Level

- SEA Investment
- Department on Disabilities Investment
- Centers for Independent Living
- VR Council



Engaging Families at the Local Level

- Guiding the Journey
- Guiding the Journey – 14
- Hidden Disabilities
- Baby LEADers
- Training for Youth



Takes A Variety of Tools



- Disability Pride Framework
- Charting the Lifecourse Materials
- Partnerships
- Deep dive into Transition Components
- Ongoing Follow-Up
- Reciprocity

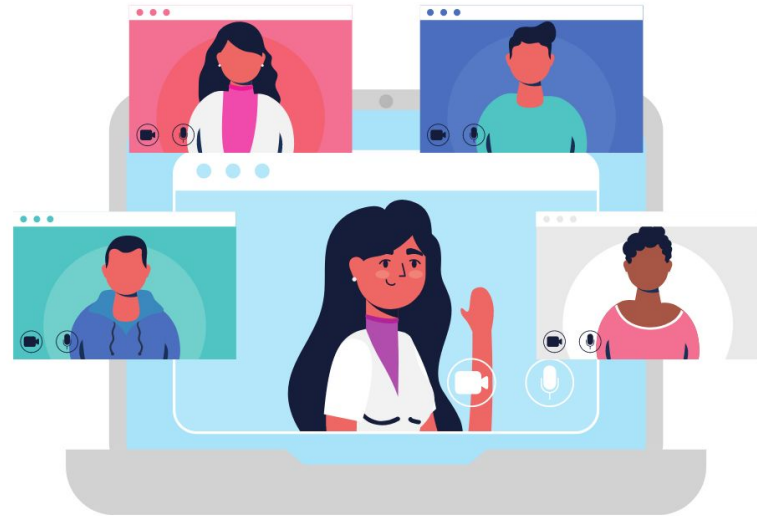
PROS & CONS of COVID

- Pre-COVID
- PROS – Greater Engagement
- CONS – Isolation



Engagement Strategies

- Connect
- Engage
- Sustain



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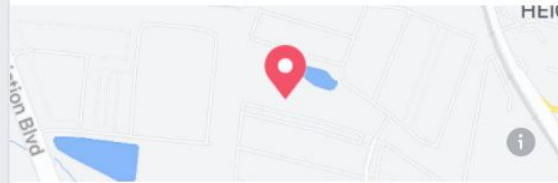
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Partners

- Your state's Parent Center
- Your state's Centers for Independent Living
- America's Job Centers
- Others ?

Your Experiences / Your Thoughts

- Which partners are missing from your work who could be an asset to your efforts?
- What have been the barriers to meaningfully engaging those partners?
- What strategies have you tried/ do you wish to try?

Questions?



Thank You!

For more information...

The Parents' Place of Maryland
802 Cromwell Park Drive, Ste. H
Glen Burnie, Maryland 21061
410-768-9100 • www.ppmmd.org

rene@ppmd.org

marlo@ppmd.org

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