

GCDD Virtual Advocacy Day #2

Inclusive Postsecondary Education (IPSE)

This is a rough transcription from the Virtual Advocacy Day held on February 16, 2021. It has not been edited, and it may contain spelling or other errors.

MEETING BEGINS:

00:23:15.000 --> 00:23:17.000

>> CHARLIE MILLER: Thank you for joining us.

00:23:17.000 --> 00:23:22.000

>> You're welcome.

00:23:22.000 --> 00:23:24.000

>> Welcome to my dorm room, Charlie.

00:23:24.000 --> 00:23:37.000

>> CHARLIE MILLER: Oh. I'm not able to see it right

00:23:37.000 --> 00:23:43.000

now, because I'm spotlighted but I hope I can see it soon.

00:23:43.000 --> 00:23:46.000

>> I can go in my mom's Facebook page,

00:23:46.000 --> 00:23:50.000

she has pictures.

00:23:50.000 --> 00:23:53.000

>> CHARLIE MILLER: Awesome.

00:23:53.000 --> 00:23:55.000

>> Can you hear me?

00:23:55.000 --> 00:24:01.000

>> CHARLIE MILLER: We can. We'll

00:24:01.000 --> 00:24:06.000

start in just a little while.

00:24:06.000 --> 00:24:09.000

>> Hi, Charlie.

00:24:09.000 --> 00:24:12.000

>> Welcome advocates. Thank you so

00:24:12.000 --> 00:24:16.000

much for joining. Participants are currently logging on

00:24:16.000 --> 00:24:19.000

and the program will begin shortly. We're going to give folks a

00:24:19.000 --> 00:24:23.000

few more minutes, maybe a minute or two, as they enter in. So

00:24:23.000 --> 00:24:30.000

far we have 82 folks on this morning. Thanks so much, and

00:24:30.000 --> 00:24:33.000

we'll start shortly.

00:24:33.000 --> 00:24:36.000

>> Hi, Eric.

00:24:36.000 --> 00:24:40.000

>> ERIC JACOBSON: Good morning, Wesley, how are you?

00:24:40.000 --> 00:24:41.000

>> I'm doing fine.

00:24:41.000 --> 00:24:45.000

>> ERIC JACOBSON: Glad to hear that.

00:24:45.000 --> 00:24:47.000

We're going to get started in just a minute.

00:24:47.000 --> 00:24:48.000

>> Thank you, sir.

00:24:48.000 --> 00:24:50.000

00:24:50.000 --> 00:24:52.000

Hi, Charlie.

00:24:52.000 --> 00:24:57.000

>> CHARLIE MILLER: Good morning, sir.

00:24:57.000 --> 00:24:59.000

>> Hello. How are you?

00:24:59.000 --> 00:25:02.000

>> CHARLIE MILLER: I'm great. I'm so

00:25:02.000 --> 00:25:06.000

excited you joined us today.

00:25:06.000 --> 00:25:13.000

>> Hey, guys, I am so happy to see all

00:25:13.000 --> 00:25:23.000

team. my colleagues. It is so good to advocate with my

00:25:23.000 --> 00:25:24.000

>> ERIC JACOBSON: Who's that? I couldn't decide who

00:25:24.000 --> 00:25:28.000

that voice was.

00:25:28.000 --> 00:25:32.000

>> That's funny.

00:25:32.000 --> 00:25:34.000

>> Hi, Charlie. Hey, Martha.

00:25:34.000 --> 00:25:36.000

>> CHARLIE MILLER: Good morning, everyone. We'll be

00:25:36.000 --> 00:25:40.000

getting started in just a little bit.

00:25:40.000 --> 00:25:45.000

>> Good morning.

00:25:45.000 --> 00:25:46.000

>> Good morning. This is east Georgia.

00:25:46.000 --> 00:25:49.000

>> ERIC JACOBSON: Good morning.

00:25:49.000 --> 00:25:53.000
We'll get started in just a second.

00:25:53.000 --> 00:25:56.000
>> All right. Good morning, everyone,

00:25:56.000 --> 00:25:59.000
it's so wonderful to see everyone's faces.

00:25:59.000 --> 00:26:06.000
We're going to go ahead and mute all the lines because we're about

00:26:06.000 --> 00:26:10.000
to get started. We are so thrilled to be supporting GCDD

00:26:10.000 --> 00:26:12.000
often these advocacy days. Thank you so much for all of you who

00:26:12.000 --> 00:26:13.000
are participating this morning. It's wonderful to see you

00:26:13.000 --> 00:26:18.000
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00:26:18.000 --> 00:26:23.000
To start the meeting, and you will hear that doorbell

00:26:23.000 --> 00:26:29.000
ding as we get more folks in. To start the meeting, please

00:26:29.000 --> 00:26:33.000
welcome Charlie Miller, you know him. Legislative director on

00:26:33.000 --> 00:26:33.000
disabilities. Charlie, the floor is yours.

00:26:33.000 --> 00:26:35.000
>> CHARLIE MILLER: Awesome. Thank

00:26:35.000 --> 00:26:41.000
you so much.

00:26:41.000 --> 00:26:45.000
Good morning, everyone. It is so interesting saying

00:26:45.000 --> 00:26:47.000

good morning via zoom because I'm used to say, when I say good

00:26:47.000 --> 00:26:48.000

morning, everyone says good morning back.

00:26:48.000 --> 00:26:51.000

00:26:51.000 --> 00:26:58.000

So I am so excited that you are here today and I'm

00:26:58.000 --> 00:27:03.000

honored to kick off today's advocacy day event on inclusive post

00:27:03.000 --> 00:27:21.000

secondary education. I know I have a very soft spot in my heart

00:27:21.000 --> 00:27:24.000

for it since I am an IPS grad. Good owls, I have to put that in

00:27:24.000 --> 00:27:29.000

there and we'll be able to introduce all the colleges in just a

00:27:29.000 --> 00:27:40.000

little bit so I hope to hear more from y'all. But before we get

00:27:40.000 --> 00:27:46.000

started and while our mix are on, we would like to do to do and

00:27:46.000 --> 00:27:51.000

old-fashioned thing, a shout-out y'all. We have you unmuted so

00:27:51.000 --> 00:27:57.000

feel free to unmute yourself and as I mention the name of the

00:27:57.000 --> 00:28:07.000

program and your logo appears on the screen, please feel free to

00:28:07.000 --> 00:28:14.000

unmute your mix and give a little shout out. We would love to

00:28:14.000 --> 00:28:20.000

hear from you.

00:28:20.000 --> 00:28:32.000
(Hooting.

00:28:32.000 --> 00:28:36.000
>> CHARLIE MILLER: Hang on. We have ken saw first.

00:28:36.000 --> 00:28:37.000
Can I get a shoutout from ken saw state first?

00:28:37.000 --> 00:28:42.000

00:28:42.000 --> 00:28:44.000
(Shoutout.)

00:28:44.000 --> 00:28:48.000
>> CHARLIE MILLER: Awesome. I am so excited that

00:28:48.000 --> 00:28:50.000
y'all are here. Next we have Columbus state university goals

00:28:50.000 --> 00:29:00.000
program.

00:29:00.000 --> 00:29:03.000
(Shout out).

00:29:03.000 --> 00:29:03.000
>> CHARLIE MILLER: Virtual advocacy works. It works

00:29:03.000 --> 00:29:07.000

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00:29:07.000 --> 00:29:15.000
Now I want to go to my other one, which is east

00:29:15.000 --> 00:29:19.000
Georgia state college choice program. Can I get a shout out?

00:29:19.000 --> 00:29:20.000
((Shout out).

00:29:20.000 --> 00:29:22.000

>> CHARLIE MILLER: Man, this is working out really

00:29:22.000 --> 00:29:27.000

well. That's fantastic.

00:29:27.000 --> 00:29:32.000

We're going to keep going down the line. Next we have

00:29:32.000 --> 00:29:40.000

Georgia tech Excel program.

00:29:40.000 --> 00:29:44.000

(Shout out).

00:29:44.000 --> 00:29:52.000

>> CHARLIE MILLER: I see we got a lot of school

00:29:52.000 --> 00:29:54.000

spirit in here, and I really appreciate that, at 10:12 on a

00:29:54.000 --> 00:30:02.000

Tuesday morning.

00:30:02.000 --> 00:30:16.000

And next, I want to go to AULG BAEN tech college, leap

00:30:16.000 --> 00:30:18.000

program. Can I get a shout out? Awesome.

00:30:18.000 --> 00:30:22.000

>> CHARLIE MILLER: Next I want to go

00:30:22.000 --> 00:30:29.000

to the University of Georgia destination

00:30:29.000 --> 00:30:29.000

>> CHARLIE MILLER: Next I want to go to the

00:30:29.000 --> 00:30:29.000

Ibany tech college, leap program. Can I get a shout out? Awesome.

00:30:29.000 --> 00:30:31.000

University of Georgia destination DAWGS program.

00:30:31.000 --> 00:30:35.000

>> CHARLIE MILLER: There we go. I

00:30:35.000 --> 00:30:40.000

love y'all. I have to say my whole family is a DAWGS

00:30:40.000 --> 00:30:45.000

fan and when I became an owl, it was a big deal for them. So

00:30:45.000 --> 00:30:54.000

now I want to jump to the Georgia state university ideal

00:30:54.000 --> 00:30:55.000

program. Can I get a shout out from y'all? (Shout out).

00:30:55.000 --> 00:30:57.000

>> CHARLIE MILLER: I like that. I

00:30:57.000 --> 00:31:02.000

like that, y'all.

00:31:02.000 --> 00:31:06.000

And then next I want to get a shout out from Georgia

00:31:06.000 --> 00:31:12.000

southern eagle academy.

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(Shout out, go EEG GELZ).

00:31:14.000 --> 00:31:28.000

>> CHARLIE MILLER: There we go. I love the school

00:31:28.000 --> 00:31:28.000

eagles). >> CHARLIE MILLER: There we go. I love the school

00:31:28.000 --> 00:31:30.000

spirit we are really feeling today, y'all.

00:31:30.000 --> 00:31:34.000

>> CHARLIE MILLER: Next I want to

00:31:34.000 --> 00:31:35.000

hear from University of west Georgia project

00:31:35.000 --> 00:31:39.000
wolves.

00:31:39.000 --> 00:31:47.000
Before we put everyone on mute, could I get one more

00:31:47.000 --> 00:31:50.000
shout out for IPSE, y'all?

00:31:50.000 --> 00:31:52.000
(Shout out).

00:31:52.000 --> 00:31:57.000
>> CHARLIE MILLER: We are making change and I'm so

00:31:57.000 --> 00:31:59.000
excited that we are making real change and good change in the

00:31:59.000 --> 00:32:06.000
State of Georgia.

00:32:06.000 --> 00:32:09.000
>> Amen, brother.

00:32:09.000 --> 00:32:12.000
>> CHARLIE MILLER: It's great to hear from y'all this

00:32:12.000 --> 00:32:18.000
morning. I get a fantastic opportunity to welcome a good

00:32:18.000 --> 00:32:27.000
colleague of mine and executive director of the Georgia council

00:32:27.000 --> 00:32:29.000
of developmental disabilities. Let's give a warm welcome tore

00:32:29.000 --> 00:32:32.000
Eric Jacobson.

00:32:32.000 --> 00:32:39.000
>> ERIC JACOBSON: Good morning, everybody, and thanks

00:32:39.000 --> 00:32:43.000

Charlie for that introduction. Am I still on mute?

00:32:43.000 --> 00:32:43.000

>> We can hear you.

00:32:43.000 --> 00:32:44.000

>> ERIC JACOBSON: All right, thank

00:32:44.000 --> 00:32:48.000

you.

00:32:48.000 --> 00:32:51.000

It's great to follow Charlie because at 10 o'clock in

00:32:51.000 --> 00:32:53.000

the morning, he gives me lots of energy. Thank you, Charlie,

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for that.

00:32:56.000 --> 00:33:02.000

And thanks, everybody, for being here. I am pleased

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to welcome you to GCDD's second virtual advocacy day event. By

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going virtual, we're excited to be able to expand our reach to

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those who are not typically able to

00:33:14.000 --> 00:33:18.000

attend in person at the state capitol and to have almost 100

00:33:18.000 --> 00:33:23.000

people online, again on a Tuesday morning, is great. Thank you

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for coming. This gives us the ability to particularly reach out

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to some of you schools across the state and I'm so happy to

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see schools from states borrow to north Georgia, south JURMG

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gentleman, east Georgia. Thank you for coming

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00:33:44.000 --> 00:33:55.000

This is the second of three advocacy days that we're

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going to be presenting. Registration is open for next advocacy

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day, March 10th, and that will focus on employment. So I think

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that I understand that when you go to college, the outcome of

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college is a job, so it's a natural step to go from advocating

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for inclusive post secondary education to advocating for a job.

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So we hope that you'll show back up on March 10th and the

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registration link can be found in the chat box right now

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00:34:25.000 --> 00:34:29.000

I do want to let you know that we've kind of given you

00:34:29.000 --> 00:34:34.000

a little heads up on this. Yesterday, I testified before the

00:34:34.000 --> 00:34:37.000

house subcommittee, appropriations subcommittee, on health and

00:34:37.000 --> 00:34:44.000

human services, that's the committee that will make a decision

00:34:44.000 --> 00:34:47.000

about how much funding to give for the IPSE programs. So

00:34:47.000 --> 00:34:51.000

they're already ready for you. They're ready for you to call

00:34:51.000 --> 00:34:56.000

them and to talk to them about your experiences. So hopefully

00:34:56.000 --> 00:34:59.000

some of those legislators might be on the call later this

00:34:59.000 --> 00:34:59.000

afternoon so you can talk to them and they can hear from you as

00:34:59.000 --> 00:35:07.000

well.

00:35:07.000 --> 00:35:12.000

And I'm always reminded of the power of advocacy and I

00:35:12.000 --> 00:35:20.000

don't want to encourage anything too radical, but there was a

00:35:20.000 --> 00:35:24.000

time a few years ago when we did advocacy at the capitol,

00:35:24.000 --> 00:35:27.000

advocacy day at the capitol and during that day, I got a phone

00:35:27.000 --> 00:35:32.000

call from the governor's office. The governor's office told me

00:35:32.000 --> 00:35:36.000

we had shut down -- this is way before computers, this is before

00:35:36.000 --> 00:35:39.000

most of you have been around -- bullet we were able to shut down

00:35:39.000 --> 00:35:47.000

the telephones and the fax machines at the capitol because we

00:35:47.000 --> 00:35:52.000

had so many people calling in and advocating. So that's the top

00:35:52.000 --> 00:35:56.000

of what you should be striving for, is for me to get a phone

00:35:56.000 --> 00:36:01.000

call from the governor's office to say that there are too many

00:36:01.000 --> 00:36:04.000

of you calling your legislators about money for IPSE. So that's

00:36:04.000 --> 00:36:07.000

what we want to encourage you to do.

00:36:07.000 --> 00:36:11.000

So before we get started, I have a few housekeeping

00:36:11.000 --> 00:36:15.000

tips that I'm supposed to let you all know about. As you know,

00:36:15.000 --> 00:36:18.000

we've muted all the lines so that we can hear from a number of

00:36:18.000 --> 00:36:23.000

speakers today and we ask that you keep your lines muted until

00:36:23.000 --> 00:36:27.000

we have an opportunity to chat with each other during the

00:36:27.000 --> 00:36:29.000

networking sessions over the lunch break and the small group

00:36:29.000 --> 00:36:34.000

breakout sessions in the afternoon.

00:36:34.000 --> 00:36:39.000

You can also participate in conversation using the

00:36:39.000 --> 00:36:43.000

chat column that's on the right hand side of your screen. I

00:36:43.000 --> 00:36:49.000

know I've been on a lot of phone calls with you guys and you're

00:36:49.000 --> 00:36:51.000

really really good at using the chat. So I know that you'll be

00:36:51.000 --> 00:36:54.000

adding information into the chat, we'll be looking at that and

00:36:54.000 --> 00:36:55.000

we'll be able to respond to you at that time as well

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00:36:58.000 --> 00:37:04.000

We ask that you keep these comments on the topic and

00:37:04.000 --> 00:37:08.000

not distract your fellow advocates. In order to make everyone's

00:37:08.000 --> 00:37:12.000

voices heard during this virtual advocacy day, we want to make

00:37:12.000 --> 00:37:16.000

sure that everyone who's participating is counted. So if you

00:37:16.000 --> 00:37:19.000

have more than one person on your computer or your device and

00:37:19.000 --> 00:37:25.000

they haven't already registered, we ask that you please provide

00:37:25.000 --> 00:37:28.000

that information in the chat box. We want to make sure you're

00:37:28.000 --> 00:37:34.000

all counted so if your ledges late tore comes to us, we can say

00:37:34.000 --> 00:37:35.000

we know you were here that day as well.

00:37:35.000 --> 00:37:40.000

So in addition to knowing which

00:37:40.000 --> 00:37:43.000

programs that you're representing, we would like to know a

00:37:43.000 --> 00:37:47.000

little bit more about who's participating today. We're

00:37:47.000 --> 00:37:51.000

putting up a poll right now, and if you can please respond to it,

00:37:51.000 --> 00:37:56.000

we would like to know what your role is. Are you a

00:37:56.000 --> 00:38:00.000

self-advocate? Are you a family member? Are you a professional, an

00:38:00.000 --> 00:38:03.000

ally or something else? Why don't we go ahead and complete this.

00:38:03.000 --> 00:38:28.000

We'll give you a few minutes to do that and then we'll let

00:38:28.000 --> 00:38:32.000

you know what everybody says.

00:38:32.000 --> 00:38:35.000

00:38:35.000 --> 00:38:40.000

So Gregg mentioned some of us may be more than one. I

00:38:40.000 --> 00:38:52.000

don't think we have the option to choose more than one, so pick

00:38:52.000 --> 00:38:52.000

the one that you feel most comfortable with. Okay

00:38:52.000 --> 00:38:55.000

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00:38:55.000 --> 00:39:00.000

So it looks like we have about half of us are

00:39:00.000 --> 00:39:08.000

professionals, allies, or others. And the rest of you are, the

00:39:08.000 --> 00:39:14.000

other half, the other 50 percent, so Ashley says that y'all are

00:39:14.000 --> 00:39:25.000

in the same room together so you can't vote either. So we'll

00:39:25.000 --> 00:39:28.000

just add you to that but -- looks like about half of us are

00:39:28.000 --> 00:39:30.000

professionals and allies and the other half are individuals and

00:39:30.000 --> 00:39:33.000

family members.

00:39:33.000 --> 00:39:35.000

So thank you for attending this event.

00:39:35.000 --> 00:39:39.000

And now we'd like to know how many of

00:39:39.000 --> 00:39:45.000

you are current IPSE program students, IPSE graduates,

00:39:45.000 --> 00:39:48.000

IPSE staff, IPSE programs, future students. So let us

00:39:48.000 --> 00:39:51.000

know where you are now. If you can please enter that into the

00:39:51.000 --> 00:40:21.000

poll screen, we'll give you a couple of minutes to do that as

00:40:23.000 --> 00:40:34.000

well.

00:40:34.000 --> 00:40:39.000

Okay. Give you just a couple more seconds. Next time

00:40:39.000 --> 00:40:41.000

we'll have to figure out to make sure how those of you in the

00:40:41.000 --> 00:40:45.000

same room together can vote separately.

00:40:45.000 --> 00:40:48.000

So it looks like right now, we have

00:40:48.000 --> 00:40:53.000

about 46 percent of you or 25 of you, probably more

00:40:53.000 --> 00:40:55.000

than that, are current IPSE students. That's great. We're glad

00:40:55.000 --> 00:40:56.000

that all the current IPSE students are with us

00:40:56.000 --> 00:41:01.000

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00:41:01.000 --> 00:41:10.000

We only got one graduate here, so that must be

00:41:10.000 --> 00:41:14.000

Charlie. He already told us that he's a graduate, right? But I

00:41:14.000 --> 00:41:17.000

notice there are two, I know at least two of you, two graduates,

00:41:17.000 --> 00:41:22.000

are here.

00:41:22.000 --> 00:41:27.000

About 19 of you are program staff and we have nine

00:41:27.000 --> 00:41:31.000

kids, nine students here, that are potential or future IPSE

00:41:31.000 --> 00:41:34.000

students. That's great. Way to get started early and you'll

00:41:34.000 --> 00:41:37.000

get a chance to hear from some of the schools so you'll know

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maybe which one you want to attend.

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Again, thank you for that. And we appreciate

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everybody being here.

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So I'm actually supposed to talk for a much longer

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period of time, but I can't do song and dances like Charlie can,

00:41:59.000 --> 00:42:03.000

so I'll wrap up what I have to say and then I think we're going

00:42:03.000 --> 00:42:03.000

to show a quick video and then we'll get started from there

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00:42:08.000 --> 00:42:11.000

We ask that you understand the flexibility and

00:42:11.000 --> 00:42:14.000

patience with the virtual format.

00:42:14.000 --> 00:42:24.000

I know many of you have been on zoom calls throughout

00:42:24.000 --> 00:42:30.000

the year and maybe have witnessed a zoom call where you got lost

00:42:30.000 --> 00:42:36.000

or you got kicked off or I know one where I was on where we got

00:42:36.000 --> 00:42:39.000

zoom bombed so I really ask your patience to be flexible with

00:42:39.000 --> 00:42:42.000

this. If something goes wrong with the technology, because we

00:42:42.000 --> 00:42:45.000

know technology is not always perfect.

00:42:45.000 --> 00:42:48.000

We ask that you share your feedback on

00:42:48.000 --> 00:42:51.000

the event because we're going to ask these kind

00:42:51.000 --> 00:42:55.000

of polling questions throughout. It helps us know who was

00:42:55.000 --> 00:43:02.000

here and what you're thinking, since we can't do that just

00:43:02.000 --> 00:43:06.000

by zoom by itself. And then we'll have a survey at the end

00:43:06.000 --> 00:43:07.000

just to kind of know how you think the event went.

00:43:07.000 --> 00:43:10.000

So thank you for joining. We're

00:43:10.000 --> 00:43:10.000

thrilled to welcome you here, we're thrilled to have you

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here.

00:43:16.000 --> 00:43:21.000

. I hope every one of you gets a chance to talk with your

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ledges late fore, tell them about the experience you've had in the

00:43:24.000 --> 00:43:28.000

IPSE or the experience that your child has had or the

00:43:28.000 --> 00:43:32.000

experience that you've had as a staff person. Let them know the

00:43:32.000 --> 00:43:38.000

importance of this program and what it's meant to you. That's the

00:43:38.000 --> 00:43:46.000

most important thing, is to tell your story to your legislators

00:43:46.000 --> 00:43:49.000

about why IPSE is important to you. If you didn't have IPSE in

00:43:49.000 --> 00:43:53.000

your life, what it would mean. I think that's what legislators

00:43:53.000 --> 00:43:57.000

would like to hear and I know yesterday some of the legislators

00:43:57.000 --> 00:44:01.000

we spoke with said they're looking forward to hearing

00:44:01.000 --> 00:44:01.000

from you and looking forward to hearing your stories as well

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00:44:05.000 --> 00:44:09.000

So with that, I think we're going to take, they're

00:44:09.000 --> 00:44:18.000

going to show a quick video and then we're going to welcome

00:44:18.000 --> 00:44:24.000

Teresa Heard who is the vice chair of the Georgia council on

00:44:24.000 --> 00:44:28.000

disabilities and she's the moderator for our next IPSE panel

00:44:28.000 --> 00:44:32.000

discussion so Kim, if you can go ahead and show that video

00:44:32.000 --> 00:44:33.000

because I think I didn't go my full time, and we'll get started

00:44:33.000 --> 00:44:35.000

with the rest of it.

00:44:35.000 --> 00:44:37.000

Thank you, guys, I look forward to seeing you the rest

00:44:37.000 --> 00:44:39.000
of the day.

00:44:39.000 --> 00:44:45.000
>> KIMBERLY HUDSON: Thank you so much, Eric and

00:44:45.000 --> 00:44:50.000
Charlie, for starting us off. And thank you everyone, 101

00:44:50.000 --> 00:44:54.000
participants, woohoo, who are on the call this morning. We're

00:44:54.000 --> 00:45:02.000
going to hear from IPSE graduates right now, we'll share a video

00:45:02.000 --> 00:45:15.000
and as Eric mentioned we'll hear from a wonderful IPSE panel so

00:45:15.000 --> 00:45:45.000
we'll just share this video with you.

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(Video with captions.)

01:00:05.000 --> 01:00:14.000
>> It was so wonderful to hear from

01:00:14.000 --> 01:00:16.000
those IPSE graduates. Now we'll hear from IPSE

01:00:16.000 --> 01:00:24.000
graduates and parents.

01:00:24.000 --> 01:00:29.000
I would like to welcome Teresa Heard, will be joining

01:00:29.000 --> 01:00:57.000
us as the moderator for this panel. If you just give us a

01:00:57.000 --> 01:01:00.000
minute and we will spotlight our panelist.

01:01:00.000 --> 01:01:04.000

>> TERESA HEARD: Oh, okay. There I

01:01:04.000 --> 01:01:11.000

am. Thank you so much, Kim, I really appreciate the

01:01:11.000 --> 01:01:18.000

introduction. Again, my name is Teresa Heard, I'm the vice chair, I

01:01:18.000 --> 01:01:22.000

am a biracial African- American female, I have curly hair,

01:01:22.000 --> 01:01:23.000

silver earrings, a blue background in the back and I'm wearing

01:01:23.000 --> 01:01:26.000

a gray sweater.

01:01:26.000 --> 01:01:37.000

I would like to introduce our panelists this morning.

01:01:37.000 --> 01:01:41.000

We have star Bruner, we have Darien Todd, IPSE graduate inTERNG

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for the center for leadership and disabilities for Georgia

01:01:41.000 --> 01:01:46.000

state.

01:01:46.000 --> 01:01:51.000

We have Sharon Norsworthy THEE, a parent of an IPSE

01:01:51.000 --> 01:01:59.000

graduate who attended eagles academy.

01:01:59.000 --> 01:02:00.000

We have Cyndi dewhite, a parent, destination DAWGS

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program.

01:02:05.000 --> 01:02:09.000

I want to kick it off with my first question to Starr.

01:02:09.000 --> 01:02:14.000

Can you talk about the value of the IPSE program in Georgia RAND

01:02:14.000 --> 01:02:18.000

how they're changing the lives of people with developmental

01:02:18.000 --> 01:02:21.000

disabilities.

01:02:21.000 --> 01:02:27.000

>> STARR BRUNER: Great, thanks. Yeah, thanks Teresa,

01:02:27.000 --> 01:02:32.000

I'm happy to be here, I'm wearing my Kennesaw gold today. Yes,

01:02:32.000 --> 01:02:41.000

the IPSE programs provide students with intellectual and

01:02:41.000 --> 01:02:47.000

development al disabilities to get higher education, inclusive,

01:02:47.000 --> 01:02:52.000

the benefits of IPSE are aligned with any typical college

01:02:52.000 --> 01:02:58.000

experience. Aside from the students' needs, they address job

01:02:58.000 --> 01:03:03.000

skills and other needs. IPSE students go to the same classes as

01:03:03.000 --> 01:03:08.000

other students, they may live there, football games, participate

01:03:08.000 --> 01:03:09.000

in Greek life, get tutored, study labs and learn and expand

01:03:09.000 --> 01:03:12.000

their net works.

01:03:12.000 --> 01:03:20.000

Think about all the doors that college opened up for

01:03:20.000 --> 01:03:21.000

you and that's what IPSE does for people with development al

01:03:21.000 --> 01:03:22.000
disabilities.

01:03:22.000 --> 01:03:27.000
>> TERESA HEARD: Thanks.

01:03:27.000 --> 01:03:30.000
Sharon, can you tell us about the IPSE program in

01:03:30.000 --> 01:03:31.000
Georgia? How did you find out about it?

01:03:31.000 --> 01:03:36.000
>> SHARON NORSWORTHY: Hi, everyone.

01:03:36.000 --> 01:03:40.000
It's such a pleasure to be here. Coal is

01:03:40.000 --> 01:03:48.000
currently at Georgia southern university, second semester senior,

01:03:48.000 --> 01:03:53.000
and when coal was a senior in high school, he was told in front

01:03:53.000 --> 01:04:00.000
of us by an educate tore for us to face it, that he would never

01:04:00.000 --> 01:04:02.000
attend college. And his father said no, there's got to be

01:04:02.000 --> 01:04:06.000
something else out there.

01:04:06.000 --> 01:04:11.000
And so we googled it and we found east Georgia. He

01:04:11.000 --> 01:04:16.000
went there for two years, graduated, but he was not want to end

01:04:16.000 --> 01:04:19.000
the college life there. He was driven and then he applied to

01:04:19.000 --> 01:04:25.000

Georgia southern university. They're amazing. We went there

01:04:25.000 --> 01:04:29.000

for an interview, they accepted Cole, they helped Cole so much

01:04:29.000 --> 01:04:38.000

that he is actually in a paid internship. He is hoping to work

01:04:38.000 --> 01:04:42.000

at Georgia southern and he was studying kin knees YOLG, personal

01:04:42.000 --> 01:04:48.000

trainer, coaching, former WRES LER, former football player and I

01:04:48.000 --> 01:04:51.000

cannot sing the praises enough of these programs, how we found

01:04:51.000 --> 01:04:54.000

them and how they stuck with Cole.

01:04:54.000 --> 01:04:55.000

>> TERESA HEARD: Thank you so much, Sharon.

01:04:55.000 --> 01:04:56.000

>> SHARON NORSWORTHY: They believed

01:04:56.000 --> 01:04:58.000

in him.

01:04:58.000 --> 01:05:02.000

>> TERESA HEARD: Thank you. Another question to you,

01:05:02.000 --> 01:05:09.000

Sharon, how did you know your son was ready for an IPSE program

01:05:09.000 --> 01:05:12.000

and what kind of criteria did you have in your mind choosing,

01:05:12.000 --> 01:05:14.000

choosing for your son, the best IPSE program for you?

01:05:14.000 --> 01:05:17.000

>> SHARON NORSWORTHY: Cole has always

01:05:17.000 --> 01:05:22.000

been driven. I'll never forget the day that Cole

01:05:22.000 --> 01:05:33.000

came home and he was very upset. He said I have no options in

01:05:33.000 --> 01:05:38.000

life and his dad and I are his biggest fans, his biggest advocate

01:05:38.000 --> 01:05:40.000

and we said, Cole, there are many options in life, you can go

01:05:40.000 --> 01:05:40.000

to college and do whatever you want to be

01:05:40.000 --> 01:05:45.000

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01:05:45.000 --> 01:05:48.000

His football coach told him, Cole, you can do anything

01:05:48.000 --> 01:05:49.000

you want to do. You just have to put your mind to it

01:05:49.000 --> 01:05:52.000

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01:05:52.000 --> 01:06:01.000

With the advocacy of us and the advocacy of the

01:06:01.000 --> 01:06:06.000

program and to Dr. Devine and Dr. KickENZ and east Georgia Miss

01:06:06.000 --> 01:06:11.000

Teresa, we just knew that Cole had these talents. We were

01:06:11.000 --> 01:06:16.000

intentional, we leaned into these challenges and he realized

01:06:16.000 --> 01:06:22.000

that he can do this and that he does want to be independent and

01:06:22.000 --> 01:06:25.000

I think one of the funniest stories was when I dropped him off

01:06:25.000 --> 01:06:29.000

at east Georgia and then again at Georgia southern and I'm in

01:06:29.000 --> 01:06:29.000

tears as mothers are when we drop our kids off

01:06:29.000 --> 01:06:33.000

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01:06:33.000 --> 01:06:34.000

He said, mama, do not be calling me every day. I got

01:06:34.000 --> 01:06:38.000

this.

01:06:38.000 --> 01:06:40.000

And I wanted to say who's paying for the cell phone?

01:06:40.000 --> 01:06:41.000

I'm calling you when I want to call you

01:06:41.000 --> 01:06:44.000

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01:06:44.000 --> 01:06:48.000

But I gave him his space and he's very independent

01:06:48.000 --> 01:06:52.000

now. He's become a strong man. He's become competent. It

01:06:52.000 --> 01:07:03.000

makes me tier up because this program has given him such a

01:07:03.000 --> 01:07:07.000

purpose and a place and said we can do this together. And

01:07:07.000 --> 01:07:13.000

because of all the advocates who believed in Cole and believed

01:07:13.000 --> 01:07:16.000

in us, he's a star today.

01:07:16.000 --> 01:07:20.000

>> TERESA HEARD: That's fantastic. Does my heart

01:07:20.000 --> 01:07:23.000

good to hear your story.

01:07:23.000 --> 01:07:27.000

KIND de, you have a daughter in the IPSE see program.

01:07:27.000 --> 01:07:29.000

Can you tell us about her experience?

01:07:29.000 --> 01:07:35.000

>> CYNDI WHITE: Absolutely. Her name

01:07:35.000 --> 01:07:42.000

is Emily and she attends U G A with destination

01:07:42.000 --> 01:07:46.000

DAWGS. Her experience has been really powerful because it let

01:07:46.000 --> 01:07:50.000

her continue a family tradition of going to UGA. It allowed

01:07:50.000 --> 01:07:54.000

her to live at home the first semester. We don't live far

01:07:54.000 --> 01:07:58.000

away so we can commute for her to go back and forth. She was

01:07:58.000 --> 01:08:04.000

able her second semester to be able to move out with one of her

01:08:04.000 --> 01:08:08.000

lifelong best friends who is neurotypical and two other roommates

01:08:08.000 --> 01:08:13.000

who have embraced her and supported her in what little she

01:08:13.000 --> 01:08:15.000

needed support in being in an apartment next to campus which has

01:08:15.000 --> 01:08:18.000

been wonderful.

01:08:18.000 --> 01:08:23.000

So that's the beginning of that. Do you want to guide

01:08:23.000 --> 01:08:24.000

the questions any more for me or do you want me to just talk?

01:08:24.000 --> 01:08:27.000

>> TERESA HEARD: Let me ask you this

01:08:27.000 --> 01:08:31.000

in regards to your daughter. We know about Sharon's

01:08:31.000 --> 01:08:34.000

experience. Let me ask you this: How was it for you to drop

01:08:34.000 --> 01:08:36.000

her off at school?

01:08:36.000 --> 01:08:40.000

>> CYNDI WHITE: I know it's going to sound crazy but

01:08:40.000 --> 01:08:46.000

I felt better dropping her off than I did my son two years

01:08:46.000 --> 01:08:49.000

earlier because destination DAWGS did such a fabulous job of

01:08:49.000 --> 01:08:50.000

reassuring us that she was going to have support while she was

01:08:50.000 --> 01:08:54.000

there.

01:08:54.000 --> 01:08:58.000

The only part that was difficult is Emily does use the

01:08:58.000 --> 01:09:02.000

support of a wheelchair so we were a little concerned about how

01:09:02.000 --> 01:09:06.000

is she going to maneuver on campus so we spent a lot of time

01:09:06.000 --> 01:09:12.000

practicing that. That was more anxiety-producing for me than it

01:09:12.000 --> 01:09:16.000

was knowing that she was going to be with a mentor at the time

01:09:16.000 --> 01:09:17.000

she was there. That was comforting. That really helped.

01:09:17.000 --> 01:09:18.000

>> TERESA HEARD: I love to hear that.

01:09:18.000 --> 01:09:25.000

I really do.

01:09:25.000 --> 01:09:33.000

Let me ask you this, Darien, last but not least: What

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attracted you to the program at Kennesaw? Darien Darien so what

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attracted me was, to start the conversation, I wasn't really

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thinking about going to college at all when I was in high

01:09:46.000 --> 01:09:51.000

school. I remember telling my mom when she picked me up, I

01:09:51.000 --> 01:09:58.000

don't think college is for me. So from there, we went -- I

01:09:58.000 --> 01:10:02.000

heard about it in my last IEP meeting in high school when I was

01:10:02.000 --> 01:10:05.000

transitioning out. So I went to go visit the campus and it was

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a summer-intensive and I fell in love.

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They showed us the campus, they gave

01:10:16.000 --> 01:10:18.000

us a room tour. For me it really felt like home when I

01:10:18.000 --> 01:10:21.000

saw the dorm room.

01:10:21.000 --> 01:10:24.000

The really thing is for me was just having that

01:10:24.000 --> 01:10:28.000

college experience because I always thought, even though I

01:10:28.000 --> 01:10:32.000

didn't think college was for me, I always thought I wanted to

01:10:32.000 --> 01:10:36.000

have that experience because my brother had that experience.

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Some of my family members had that experience. So I just wanted

01:10:37.000 --> 01:10:40.000

to have that experience.

01:10:40.000 --> 01:10:46.000

When I heard about Kennesaw having a program for

01:10:46.000 --> 01:10:53.000

people with intellectual disabilities, I was like let's hop on

01:10:53.000 --> 01:11:00.000

that and see how it goes. And I went there and I learned a lot

01:11:00.000 --> 01:11:03.000

of life skills, like managing my time, hanging out with friends,

01:11:03.000 --> 01:11:06.000

doing college things. Learning new things that you probably

01:11:06.000 --> 01:11:06.000

didn't know if you didn't go to college

01:11:06.000 --> 01:11:12.000

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01:11:12.000 --> 01:11:14.000

So I always say, I always say to myself, it's good

01:11:14.000 --> 01:11:18.000

that you went to college. It's good that you had that

01:11:18.000 --> 01:11:20.000

experience. And I also did a lot of traveling. I'm not going

01:11:20.000 --> 01:11:26.000

to tell you all the places I've been because it's a lot of

01:11:26.000 --> 01:11:31.000

places, I don't think we have that much time. So I've been, I

01:11:31.000 --> 01:11:32.000

did a lot of traveling. That's one of the things I got out of

01:11:32.000 --> 01:11:35.000

college.

01:11:35.000 --> 01:11:39.000

And just networking and figuring out what I want to

01:11:39.000 --> 01:11:44.000

do. So when I first went there, I wanted to do something in

01:11:44.000 --> 01:11:48.000

fashion. That was my main focus my freshman year when I landed

01:11:48.000 --> 01:11:55.000

on campus. I wanted to do something in fashion. I always

01:11:55.000 --> 01:11:59.000

talked with my job mentor. I want to do something in fashion.

01:11:59.000 --> 01:12:00.000

Just kept asking him to give me an internship with something

01:12:00.000 --> 01:12:04.000

with fashion.

01:12:04.000 --> 01:12:10.000

Towards my second year of my program at Kennesaw, I

01:12:10.000 --> 01:12:15.000

drastically changed to public speaking and public speaking took

01:12:15.000 --> 01:12:18.000

me to advocating for people with disabilities and IPSE programs,

01:12:18.000 --> 01:12:18.000

what I'm doing now, sharing my story, inspiring people

01:12:18.000 --> 01:12:25.000

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01:12:25.000 --> 01:12:25.000

so I fell in love with that

01:12:25.000 --> 01:12:29.000

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01:12:29.000 --> 01:12:37.000

I kind of see my advocacy as something that I can mold

01:12:37.000 --> 01:12:44.000

into my own practice of creativity. I love to inspire people

01:12:44.000 --> 01:12:52.000

and I hope that when I do speak to a panel or an audience, I

01:12:52.000 --> 01:12:58.000

leave them with some type of hope that your child can go to

01:12:58.000 --> 01:13:06.000

college and have that college experience because it is possible.

01:13:06.000 --> 01:13:10.000

We can do what we want. We can be anything we want to be and if

01:13:10.000 --> 01:13:10.000

we just set our minds to it, we will accomplish it

01:13:10.000 --> 01:13:18.000

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01:13:18.000 --> 01:13:23.000

There's this saying that I live by -- of the time but

01:13:23.000 --> 01:13:26.000

the view is great. When you get to the top of the mountain,

01:13:26.000 --> 01:13:30.000

climb the ladder and look out at all the accomplishments that

01:13:30.000 --> 01:13:35.000

you did to get to the top of the mountain and all the goals that

01:13:35.000 --> 01:13:38.000

you have overcome to get to the top of the mountain and all the

01:13:38.000 --> 01:13:42.000

people you proved wrong that said that you wouldn't be able to

01:13:42.000 --> 01:13:45.000

go to college, you wouldn't be able to speak, you wouldn't be

01:13:45.000 --> 01:13:48.000

able to walk, you wouldn't be able to drive and all the things

01:13:48.000 --> 01:13:52.000

that people said I wouldn't be able to do. I'm driving, I have

01:13:52.000 --> 01:13:53.000

a job, I am doing all the things that people said I wouldn't be

01:13:53.000 --> 01:14:01.000

able to do.

01:14:01.000 --> 01:14:02.000

So that's why I live by that saying, check the time

01:14:02.000 --> 01:14:05.000

and the view is great.

01:14:05.000 --> 01:14:13.000

>> TERESA HEARD: That is fabulous. I love hearing

01:14:13.000 --> 01:14:15.000

from you, DAR yen. He's the local Celebrity, in case you

01:14:15.000 --> 01:14:19.000

haven't heard. He's fabulous.

01:14:19.000 --> 01:14:23.000

I want to go to star. Star, what is the typical

01:14:23.000 --> 01:14:27.000

application process and/or admission standards for an IPSE

01:14:27.000 --> 01:14:31.000

program and is it different than the typical college process?

01:14:31.000 --> 01:14:32.000

>> STARR BRUNER: Yeah. So for IPSE

01:14:32.000 --> 01:14:36.000

students to submit applications to the program or

01:14:36.000 --> 01:14:40.000

programs they're interested in, they have a choice in

01:14:40.000 --> 01:14:44.000

Georgia, there's nine of them. Many schools require some sort

01:14:44.000 --> 01:14:50.000

of interview component. Some have mom and dad in this step in

01:14:50.000 --> 01:14:57.000

the process or invite them to an orientation later to learn what

01:14:57.000 --> 01:14:59.000

it's like to be a parent of an IPSE student, IPSE's on hand to

01:14:59.000 --> 01:15:01.000

help with that transition as well.

01:15:01.000 --> 01:15:05.000

01:15:05.000 --> 01:15:09.000

Do have different admission standards, require a third

01:15:09.000 --> 01:15:15.000

or fourth grade reading level, completion of high school while

01:15:15.000 --> 01:15:19.000

serving under an IEP, some level of independence and most

01:15:19.000 --> 01:15:23.000

importantly the desire to go to college. The colleges are

01:15:23.000 --> 01:15:30.000

really looking for students who want to be there to learn and

01:15:30.000 --> 01:15:33.000

not to fill someone else's expectations. TREES thanks, star.

01:15:33.000 --> 01:15:34.000

What kinds of supports are available to IPSE students while

01:15:34.000 --> 01:15:36.000

they're in college?

01:15:36.000 --> 01:15:43.000

>> STARR BRUNER: An IPSE student's college experience

01:15:43.000 --> 01:15:48.000

is customized to each student's unique needs. All IPSE programs

01:15:48.000 --> 01:15:52.000

in Georgia are tailored to the student's experience. They offer

01:15:52.000 --> 01:16:00.000

guidance or assistance to professors, this may be the

01:16:00.000 --> 01:16:03.000

professor's first experience teaching an IPSE student, make any

01:16:03.000 --> 01:16:04.000

modifications to the syllabus and set expectations for work and

01:16:04.000 --> 01:16:09.000

parts PAGSZ.

01:16:09.000 --> 01:16:15.000

Some programs have dedicated tutors and others require

01:16:15.000 --> 01:16:22.000

them to take advantage of the learning labs. Nearly all of

01:16:22.000 --> 01:16:27.000

Georgia's IPSE have an internship program where sometimes paid

01:16:27.000 --> 01:16:31.000

students help IPSE students, involve them in social activities

01:16:31.000 --> 01:16:32.000

and can help with the schoolwork that we all study with our

01:16:32.000 --> 01:16:42.000

classmates.

01:16:42.000 --> 01:16:45.000

In some cases, an IPSE program can have liaisoning,

01:16:45.000 --> 01:16:50.000

and provide a deep level of job development, helping to pair

01:16:50.000 --> 01:16:51.000

students with internships and jobs that suit their interests and

01:16:51.000 --> 01:16:56.000

career goals.

01:16:56.000 --> 01:17:02.000

And some programs offer great alumni services.

01:17:02.000 --> 01:17:04.000

Georgia tech's Excel program has a robust alumni program that

01:17:04.000 --> 01:17:10.000

their graduates enjoy.

01:17:10.000 --> 01:17:12.000

A lot of supports before, during, and after.

01:17:12.000 --> 01:17:13.000

>> TERESA HEARD: Thank you so much,

01:17:13.000 --> 01:17:18.000

star.

01:17:18.000 --> 01:17:19.000

To Sharon, how has IPSE impacted your student so far?

01:17:19.000 --> 01:17:23.000

>> SHARON NORSWORTHY: There aren't

01:17:23.000 --> 01:17:31.000

enough words to say how he's been impacted. He has

01:17:31.000 --> 01:17:37.000

become so more self-confident. He is able to really

01:17:37.000 --> 01:17:43.000

navigate daily living. He knows that he does have the advocacy

01:17:43.000 --> 01:17:52.000

program but what I have seen in Cole is that he's kind of

01:17:52.000 --> 01:17:57.000

weaned away from us. He's become more independent. He doesn't

01:17:57.000 --> 01:18:01.000

really, you know, he does call me and his dad because, why

01:18:01.000 --> 01:18:05.000

haven't you called us? He's become more independent, he's more

01:18:05.000 --> 01:18:12.000

focused on his career. He really has, I mentioned before, has

01:18:12.000 --> 01:18:18.000

become a man as far as advocating for himself, learning what

01:18:18.000 --> 01:18:22.000

his challenges are and how to navigate through those and when to

01:18:22.000 --> 01:18:22.000

ask for help and just being very independent

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01:18:27.000 --> 01:18:33.000

I have seen him become so independent. But we believe

01:18:33.000 --> 01:18:37.000

so deeply that there's purpose and hope and we all have

01:18:37.000 --> 01:18:41.000

challenges somewhere in our lives, and we navigate through that

01:18:41.000 --> 01:18:46.000

and sometimes we just need to navigate through it with somebody

01:18:46.000 --> 01:18:46.000

helping us to understand who to ask and who to help.

01:18:46.000 --> 01:18:54.000

01:18:54.000 --> 01:18:58.000

Take the texting. I can text Cole this big text and

01:18:58.000 --> 01:19:04.000

he knows it can be read back to him. We can have this great

01:19:04.000 --> 01:19:11.000

conversation. He loves to talk, he loves the campus and he did

01:19:11.000 --> 01:19:16.000

meet a young lady. They are talking about marriage in the

01:19:16.000 --> 01:19:22.000

future. I hope way in the future. But he was able to learn --

01:19:22.000 --> 01:19:25.000

I remember him telling me, when he was at choice and eagle

01:19:25.000 --> 01:19:30.000

academy, mom, I actually have books. I have books that I have,

01:19:30.000 --> 01:19:34.000

that I'm able to use and I'm able to look at these books and I'm

01:19:34.000 --> 01:19:36.000

able to help interpret with technology.

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I can't say enough of what he was

01:19:39.000 --> 01:19:46.000

INTOUSeD to and he wouldn't have been introduced to that,

01:19:46.000 --> 01:19:48.000

introduced to and he wouldn't have been introduced to that,

01:19:48.000 --> 01:19:52.000

because that is not my area of expertise but it was their

01:19:52.000 --> 01:19:57.000

expertise that helped cat PULT him to the level where he is, to

01:19:57.000 --> 01:20:03.000

where he's going to be independent and he's going to have a

01:20:03.000 --> 01:20:07.000

KOUFL life.

01:20:07.000 --> 01:20:11.000

>> TERESA HEARD: As a parent advocate myself, it is

01:20:11.000 --> 01:20:12.000

great to hear the journey that your family took

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01:20:20.000 --> 01:20:23.000

How about you, Cindy?

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>> CYNDI WHITE: I've seen her grow in her technical

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skills. Not just what Sharon talked about, networking and

01:20:35.000 --> 01:20:40.000

meeting people that Darien talked about. My goodness if there's

01:20:40.000 --> 01:20:43.000

a silver lining to COVID it's that Emily learned how to do zoom,

01:20:43.000 --> 01:20:48.000

Google meet, all these technical things that I don't have a clue

01:20:48.000 --> 01:20:51.000

how to do or I'm having to learn how to do. She's learned how

01:20:51.000 --> 01:20:56.000

to do that in college and we know that skill is going to go

01:20:56.000 --> 01:20:58.000

forward beyond COVID 19 so she's going to be able to use that in

01:20:58.000 --> 01:21:00.000

a job experience.

01:21:00.000 --> 01:21:04.000

The other thing is she learned to ask for help. If

01:21:04.000 --> 01:21:08.000

there's something not going well for her, her first thing is to

01:21:08.000 --> 01:21:13.000

come back to mom to ask. I keep reminding her, you have people

01:21:13.000 --> 01:21:17.000

on campus who know how to do this. You go ask them. She asked

01:21:17.000 --> 01:21:21.000

me less and less. She learned to talk to them about her

01:21:21.000 --> 01:21:27.000

concerns or needs to get her needs met. That independent has

01:21:27.000 --> 01:21:30.000

been fabulous for her. Y'all mentioned those are things every

01:21:30.000 --> 01:21:34.000

student has to learn how to do some, regardless whether they

01:21:34.000 --> 01:21:37.000

have an intellectual disability or not.

01:21:37.000 --> 01:21:40.000

She's not at the point of learning

01:21:40.000 --> 01:21:43.000

specific work skills because she's only three

01:21:43.000 --> 01:21:48.000

semesters into the program so a lot of that focus will be next

01:21:48.000 --> 01:21:51.000

semester and the next two semesters last year. We're excited to

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see what kind of internships and skills she picks up

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from that as well. She is learning what her interests are. So

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the classes that she's been involved in both in the education

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school and family and consumer science and in journalism have exposed

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her to different types of jobs that she can begin to look at,

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maybe that's what I'd be interested, maybe I'd be good at this,

01:22:18.000 --> 01:22:20.000

or good at that. Things she didn't get at all in high school,

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didn't have the opportunity to look that broadly at

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opportunities available to her

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01:22:24.000 --> 01:22:32.000

I guess the other thing I want to see is yes, there

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are lots of ways that the IPSE program has benefitted Emily. I

01:22:38.000 --> 01:22:42.000

think we're short-sighted if we don't also look at how it

01:22:42.000 --> 01:22:46.000

benefits the rest of campus and how it benefits even our

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financial status in government because part of what it benefits

01:22:52.000 --> 01:22:55.000

is yes, students in high school got to see our young adults and

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experience them which I think is the best thing that can happen

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for the future of our students.

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But now college students are working with them,

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college students are learning their skills and strengths and how

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to work with them in a group which is going to make them much

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more willing, when they're the bosses, to hire them and to put

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them into place and feel comfortable in working with them

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So yes, it benefits our students but it also benefits

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the whole campus and the future because the more of our students

01:23:24.000 --> 01:23:29.000

that we have employed with those people who are comfortable with

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them and see the benefits and see their skills and value them as

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employees, the less support, financial support, they're going to

01:23:39.000 --> 01:23:44.000

need from the state or from the federal government to help them.

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This is prevention and that's what's beautiful to me from a

01:23:49.000 --> 01:23:56.000

systems perspective is we're setting the groundwork for our

01:23:56.000 --> 01:24:08.000

students to be more inclusive in the work environment and in the

01:24:08.000 --> 01:24:10.000

>> TERESA HEARD: Sin de, I agree with

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work world as adults, and I think that's outstanding. you totally, I love your perspective and looking how

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we're all interconnective and how we all benefit

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01:24:19.000 --> 01:24:23.000

Darien, I have a question for you, Mr. Recent graduate

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there, congratulations. If you had to think about your whole

01:24:27.000 --> 01:24:36.000

college experience, what would you consider to be your biggest

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accomplishment? Darien Darien good question. One that I could

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really say is just having the college experience, going to

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college, and networking and making friends. Traveling, like I

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said recently. Being able to live on my own and see -- not see

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if but see how I would connect, see if I can stand on my own

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without my parents because for me, for a while, that was a

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little -- before college, that was a little hard for me.

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01:25:24.000 --> 01:25:39.000

And just having the experience all the way around and

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having within the program having people in the program want to

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see your success and want to see how you get there.

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I always say, in a program, whatever program you go

01:25:51.000 --> 01:26:00.000

to, it's all about the people that is over the program. It's

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all about who's there helping your child. It's all about --

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it's not a one-person job, it's a two-person job. You're

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helping the students live their best life. You're helping the

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students and whoever the student is under, they're both helping

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each other to help that person live their best lives and go get

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that job and live their life like they always saw themselves

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living it.

01:26:36.000 --> 01:26:46.000

And it's possible, and we are willing to, you know,

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learn and work and find that job that doesn't feel like work.

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That you want to it. You want to wake up in the morning and

01:26:56.000 --> 01:27:00.000

start your day and do your work and inspire people and do

01:27:00.000 --> 01:27:12.000

something that makes you happy, and that gives you that

01:27:12.000 --> 01:27:16.000

inspiration to change your world.

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It really is independence for me and having new

01:27:21.000 --> 01:27:24.000

friends and being able to go to college. So yeah.

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>> TERESA HEARD: Thank you so much,

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Darien, you are inspiration to so many who are on the

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call and not on the call, for me as well.

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>> DARIEN TODD: Thank you.

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>> TERESA HEARD: I enjoy hearing your

01:27:36.000 --> 01:27:42.000

input.

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I want to hear perspective from star, how does IPSE

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set up a student like Darien for life after college?

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>> STARR BRUNER: IPSE programs work

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really hard on job development services for their

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students. Many programs make them keep internships to make sure

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students can have that experience. IPSE custom interest

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TERNships helps them learn interview skills and make connections

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in the program and after they graduate

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01:28:21.000 --> 01:28:25.000

And friends, IPSE students make friends and lifelong

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networking contacts while in college just like the rest of us

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and those opportunities are nearly impossible to replicate in

01:28:32.000 --> 01:28:36.000

any other setting. College is the place you make those lifelong

01:28:36.000 --> 01:28:40.000

relationships.

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>> TERESA HEARD: Star, where do IPSE students end up

01:28:42.000 --> 01:28:45.000

working after graduation?

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>> STARR BRUNER: IPSE students can and do work every

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where across all fields and structures. They clearly know the

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value added to their organizations when they hire IPSE alumni.

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Just a few of the places I've seen our graduates working are

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CNN, the center for civil and human rights, the Georgia AK

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aquarium, Georgia airport and the CDC. I've seen our students

01:29:16.000 --> 01:29:20.000

working in hospitals, golf centers, schools, bake REEZ, rec

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centers, museums. They work in the medical field and in the art

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sector. They work in state government and state agencies. They

01:29:29.000 --> 01:29:33.000

work in the disability field. They work in both local and

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national businesses and they work in the nonprofit sector so the

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sky is the limit for IPSE graduates.

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>> TERESA HEARD: Lastly, star, how can a parent or

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young person get more information about IPSE programs in the

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state of Georgia.

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>> STARR BRUNER: Well, the first stop for parents and

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interested students would be to visit w w w g a i p s e c --

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someone's put a link in the chat. This is the website for

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consortium of Georgia programs. We have all of the IPSE and

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preparing for IPSE, the guiding principles of inclusive post

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secondary links for IPSE students in Georgia

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Think college.net is a website dedicated to IPSE. It

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has a ton of family resources, including a college tool that

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maps out all of the IPSE programs across the country. You can

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see it by state.

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Lastly please don't hesitate to reach out to me. My

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email address is star dot Bruner at G CD D, someone will put it

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in the chat or I will put it in later. Please email me with any

01:31:01.000 --> 01:31:02.000

questions and I will be happy to help.

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>> TERESA HEARD: Thank you so much,

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star, and thank you to everyone on the panel. I

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appreciate your time and your input. We are just excited to hear

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from you and to get everyone's perspective

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If you have any questions for the panelists, you can

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enter the question in the chat and during the short break or

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email advocacy at clarity fa and I'm sure we'll have someone put

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in the chat the actual website as well that you can email to

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I wanted to thank everyone again and we will be having

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a short break.

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>> Thank you again so much for the panel. We ended up

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a little early. We're going to take a break until about 11:30

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so we've got about a 15-minute break. Star MEKSed that we've

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got some IPSE graduates that worked at the Georgia AK aquarium

01:32:06.000 --> 01:32:12.000

and because you're all in your houses and not able to go out, we

01:32:12.000 --> 01:32:17.000

wanted to bring Georgia to you so we're going to do a

01:32:17.000 --> 01:32:47.000

screenshare of the Atlanta AK aquarium. Please go get a drink,

01:48:44.000 --> 01:49:14.000

aquarium and because you're all in your houses and not able to go out, we wanted to bring Georgia to you so we're going to do a screenshare of the Atlanta aquarium.

01:49:16.000 --> 01:49:16.000

Please go get a drink, use the restroom and thank you for our wonderful panelists. >> We're going to resume in just about a minute so if

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you can make your way back to your computers. Welcome back,
everyone, from that short break. I hope

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you all enjoyed the ache aquarium, I know it was MEZ MER rising. We're just
about to have the privilege of hearing from Melissa Miller with the Georgia
counsel on development al disabilities

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and she's going to break down the IPSE advocacy app to share

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information about how GCDD is preparing you to be advocates and

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share with your legislators about supporting IPSE program.

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Alice SA, I will pass it to you.

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>> ALYSSA MILLER: Good morning, everyone, thanks for

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tuning in. I'm the research director at the GCDD. We just

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heard from a great lineup of panelists about the importance of

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IPSE programs to them and I'm really excited to share some

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information with you all regarding a closer look at the

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inclusive post secondary education programs in Georgia, we offer

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refer to them as IPSE programs. You'll probably hear that

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throughout the day.

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Today we are first going to talk about IPSE by the

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numbers. We're going to look at what the IPSE programs look

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like in the state of Georgia as well as some of the numbers that

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show the positive impact that IPSE programs have on young adults

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with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We'll follow

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that by discussing some of our current funding concerns, some of

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the reasons why we are here to advocate today.

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We will then, before we move into today's specifics,

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talk about advocacy, we like to remind everyone of the great

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work we've done in the past to do more great work today and in

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the future.

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And then we will move into our specific advocacy act

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which is the reason we are here today, to make sure we are being

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very direct in our requests of our state senators so they know

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how to best support us and the IPSE programs and we will, before

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we wrap up, briefly discuss what we are calling a bonus act

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which is something we have been including in all of our previous

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advocacy presentations to make sure that we have that

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highlighted.

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So let's get into IPSE by the numbers. What do IPSE

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programs look like in the state of Georgia? We know there are

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currently nine programs located across the state and most recent

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information we have from this prior academic year which I know

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many are, 2020-21 year we have 119 students enrolled

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A bit of information about the impact that IPSE

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programs have. One of the great things we know is the

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graduation rate of students enrolled in IPSE programs is

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actually 88 percent which is quite high and especially when you

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compare that to the graduation rate of other college students.

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We know that is one of the areas that's a real clear success for

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IPSE programs.

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We also know that our most recent data shows us that

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about 54 percent of IPSE graduates are employed after their IPSE

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program. I wanted to briefly touch on this number because it

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actually comes from March of 2020, so almost a year ago. Pretty

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sure most of you will remember that that was right before COVID

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19 really started impacting us. So what this shows us is that

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54 percent of those students at the time were actually already

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employed, even they were set to graduate. We think that's

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really great.

01:53:18.000 --> 01:53:23.000

We also believe that number would most likely be much

01:53:23.000 --> 01:53:27.000

harder if it had not been for the impact of COVID 19.

01:53:27.000 --> 01:53:33.000

Regardless we do know that IPSE programs, the students who

01:53:33.000 --> 01:53:40.000

attend those programs, actually have a two times higher

01:53:40.000 --> 01:53:43.000

employment rate than their peers with intellectual and

01:53:43.000 --> 01:53:44.000

developmental disabilities than those in the IPSE program

01:53:44.000 --> 01:53:46.000

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01:53:46.000 --> 01:53:50.000

Now that we know about IPSE in the state of Georgia

01:53:50.000 --> 01:53:54.000

and the impact it has on students, I do want to discuss one of

01:53:54.000 --> 01:53:58.000

the main reasons we're here today, what are some of our current

01:53:58.000 --> 01:54:01.000

funding RERNZ that we might have for the programs. What does

01:54:01.000 --> 01:54:05.000

that mean for the program's future and sustainability and what

01:54:05.000 --> 01:54:06.000

can we do to make sure that we have a positive impact on some of

01:54:06.000 --> 01:54:10.000

those decisions.

01:54:10.000 --> 01:54:18.000

So some of you all might remember back in 2020 that

01:54:18.000 --> 01:54:22.000

the Georgia vocational rehabilitation agency, G D R A,

01:54:22.000 --> 01:54:26.000

implemented a policy change. We won't get into the specifics of

01:54:26.000 --> 01:54:30.000

what that policy change was but it's important for all to know

01:54:30.000 --> 01:54:35.000

that prior to the policy efforts over the years, I think the

01:54:35.000 --> 01:54:39.000

programs received approximately \$400,000 in G D R A financial

01:54:39.000 --> 01:54:45.000

support. So we know now what the difference from just one

01:54:45.000 --> 01:54:50.000

semester of funding based on G D R A's policy change looked like

01:54:50.000 --> 01:54:50.000

and we foresee that this impact will continue into future

01:54:50.000 --> 01:54:53.000

semesters.

01:54:53.000 --> 01:55:03.000

So the difference from just one semester is that IPSE

01:55:03.000 --> 01:55:08.000

programs received a reduced financial support of \$337,000. So

01:55:08.000 --> 01:55:13.000

again, that means they received \$338,000 less in just one

01:55:13.000 --> 01:55:16.000

semester than they typically would from G D R A. We certainly

01:55:16.000 --> 01:55:18.000

have concerns about that, what that means for the IPSE programs

01:55:18.000 --> 01:55:19.000

and the families and students who attend those programs

01:55:19.000 --> 01:55:24.000

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01:55:24.000 --> 01:55:28.000

I also did want to highlight another funding concern

01:55:28.000 --> 01:55:34.000

that we had from last year. So the general assembly, our state

01:55:34.000 --> 01:55:38.000

representatives and state senators, also provided a one-time

01:55:38.000 --> 01:55:44.000

budget cut which was specifically due to the concerns of COVID

01:55:44.000 --> 01:55:49.000

19 and what COVID 19's impact might have on our state's

01:55:49.000 --> 01:55:55.000

finances. And so the budget that supports IPSE programs

01:55:55.000 --> 01:55:59.000

received a one-time budget cut of approximately \$67,000. Both

01:55:59.000 --> 01:56:03.000

of those funding changes happened last year and we were

01:56:03.000 --> 01:56:05.000

certainly concerned about those and would like to advocate to

01:56:05.000 --> 01:56:06.000

make a difference this year around that

01:56:06.000 --> 01:56:11.000

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01:56:11.000 --> 01:56:16.000

Before I get into our specific advocacy asks for

01:56:16.000 --> 01:56:20.000

today, I did want to highlight the importance of our advocacy

01:56:20.000 --> 01:56:22.000

efforts over the years. I think sometimes we can get bogged

01:56:22.000 --> 01:56:27.000

down in some of the funding concerns that we have and why we're

01:56:27.000 --> 01:56:28.000

here to advocate and it can feel overwhelming and sometimes we

01:56:28.000 --> 01:56:32.000

don't make a difference.

01:56:32.000 --> 01:56:36.000

In our previous presentations around advocacy we have

01:56:36.000 --> 01:56:39.000

been intentional to make sure we include a little blurb about

01:56:39.000 --> 01:56:40.000

why our efforts have been successful and why we need to continue

01:56:40.000 --> 01:56:44.000

those into the future.

01:56:44.000 --> 01:56:49.000

Let's take a little look at the funding support from

01:56:49.000 --> 01:56:53.000

legislators over the years. Again, legislators, those are our

01:56:53.000 --> 01:56:56.000

state representatives and senators in the Georgia state

01:56:56.000 --> 01:56:59.000

assembly. We have to start somewhere. We started at zero but

01:56:59.000 --> 01:57:00.000

that quickly changed and has been ha improving ever since

01:57:00.000 --> 01:57:06.000

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01:57:06.000 --> 01:57:10.000

In the fiscal year 2014, the legislators provided

01:57:10.000 --> 01:57:13.000

\$100,000 to support IPSE in Georgia. And that increased from

01:57:13.000 --> 01:57:18.000

there, you can see on the slide and I'll make sure to read them

01:57:18.000 --> 01:57:22.000

out as well. In fiscal year 2015, that improved to \$200,000

01:57:22.000 --> 01:57:29.000

that the legislators provided to support IPSE in Georgia. In

01:57:29.000 --> 01:57:35.000

fiscal year 2018, that increased to \$500,000. In fiscal year

01:57:35.000 --> 01:57:41.000

'20 it stayed at \$500,000 and then the legislators also provided

01:57:41.000 --> 01:57:45.000

an additional \$106,500 to G D R A's budget. This at the time

01:57:45.000 --> 01:57:50.000

was intended to use for academic transition teachers within the

01:57:50.000 --> 01:57:54.000

IPSE programs and the legislators believed that G D R A would be

01:57:54.000 --> 01:57:54.000

able to maximize federal dollars which would increase that fund

01:57:54.000 --> 01:57:58.000

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01:57:58.000 --> 01:58:02.000

Then you can look at last year's fiscal year 2021

01:58:02.000 --> 01:58:09.000

budget, you will see there's an asterisk there because it

01:58:09.000 --> 01:58:12.000

decreased a little bit. The legislators provided \$432,843,

01:58:12.000 --> 01:58:17.000

asterisk is there because as you remember from a previous slide,

01:58:17.000 --> 01:58:20.000

that was related to a one-time cut due to the COVID impact and

01:58:20.000 --> 01:58:20.000

the concerns that it would have on our budget

01:58:20.000 --> 01:58:26.000

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01:58:26.000 --> 01:58:35.000

And they continued to provide \$106,500 to G D R A's

01:58:35.000 --> 01:58:37.000

budget to support IPSE programs as well. Why did I go through all this

01:58:37.000 --> 01:58:40.000

information? Not just so that you can see where we've been

01:58:40.000 --> 01:58:46.000

and where we are now because this would be impossible

01:58:46.000 --> 01:58:49.000

without your advocacy. So the students of IPSE programs telling

01:58:49.000 --> 01:58:53.000

their stories, families of students, the programs themselves,

01:58:53.000 --> 01:58:58.000

community allies, state agencies, without everyone lifting up

01:58:58.000 --> 01:59:04.000

the stories of IPSE success in Georgia, legislators would

01:59:04.000 --> 01:59:08.000

never know that this was such an important program to support

01:59:08.000 --> 01:59:13.000

and so because everyone made sure to raise their voices and

01:59:13.000 --> 01:59:17.000

made sure their stories are told, the legislators understand what

01:59:17.000 --> 01:59:21.000

IPSE is and have been supportive in the previous years so

01:59:21.000 --> 01:59:27.000

we're going to continue to build on that educational foundation

01:59:27.000 --> 01:59:31.000

that the legislators have, informing them about IPSE and continue

01:59:31.000 --> 01:59:33.000

to ask them for support as we move forward to improve and

01:59:33.000 --> 01:59:34.000

increase the programs throughout the state

01:59:34.000 --> 01:59:37.000

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01:59:37.000 --> 01:59:42.000

So that brings us to why we are here today. So

01:59:42.000 --> 01:59:45.000

today's advocacy ask. And I know that there might be lots of

01:59:45.000 --> 01:59:51.000

words on the screen but no worries, you all have access to these

01:59:51.000 --> 01:59:58.000

documents so there's no need to try to memorize every word. So

01:59:58.000 --> 02:00:01.000

today we are requesting an additional \$500,000 within the

02:00:01.000 --> 02:00:05.000

Georgia council on developmental disabilities, IPSE fiscal year

02:00:05.000 --> 02:00:11.000

2022 funds. You might also remember that there was a one-time

02:00:11.000 --> 02:00:16.000

cut last year as a result of COVID, which equaled \$67,157.

02:00:16.000 --> 02:00:21.000

Again, that was intended to be a one-time cut and just like we

02:00:21.000 --> 02:00:27.000

expected, the governor did propose that that cut be REEN stated.

02:00:27.000 --> 02:00:33.000

So currently the governor is requesting that that \$67,157 be

02:00:33.000 --> 02:00:41.000

reinstated into G CD D's IPSE budget. We're asking for an

02:00:41.000 --> 02:00:47.000

additional \$500,000 which would total an increase of \$567,157 in

02:00:47.000 --> 02:00:52.000

IPSE fiscal year 2022 funds. We feel strongly that these

02:00:52.000 --> 02:00:55.000

additional funds will help offset the financial impact seen by

02:00:55.000 --> 02:00:56.000

IPSE students and families as a result of the policy change

02:00:56.000 --> 02:00:59.000

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02:00:59.000 --> 02:01:05.000

Thereafternoon when y'all are working to better

02:01:05.000 --> 02:01:08.000

understand how to craft your ask and reach out to your

02:01:08.000 --> 02:01:11.000

representatives and senators you'll have access to this

02:01:11.000 --> 02:01:13.000

information and be able to incorporate this language in the work

02:01:13.000 --> 02:01:16.000

that you do this afternoon.

02:01:16.000 --> 02:01:20.000

Now, finally, before we end, we are going to talk

02:01:20.000 --> 02:01:23.000

about our bonus ask. Again as I mentioned earlier we have been

02:01:23.000 --> 02:01:27.000

including this language anytime we reach out to state

02:01:27.000 --> 02:01:32.000

representatives and state senators because it is so timely. It

02:01:32.000 --> 02:01:35.000

may seem a bit off topic but we are requesting that our

02:01:35.000 --> 02:01:39.000

advocates anytime they reach out include this information

02:01:39.000 --> 02:01:44.000

because of how important it is. So what we know is that people

02:01:44.000 --> 02:01:48.000

with developmental disabilities need access to the COVID vaccine

02:01:48.000 --> 02:01:51.000

right now. I'm sure you all have heard a lot about the COVID

02:01:51.000 --> 02:01:53.000

vaccine, it's been on the news every night since the development

02:01:53.000 --> 02:01:55.000

and release of it.

02:01:55.000 --> 02:02:01.000

We know that people with developmental disabilities

02:02:01.000 --> 02:02:06.000

are not currently included in phase 1a or phase 1b and not

02:02:06.000 --> 02:02:07.000

included until phase 1c and we find this to be a really serious

02:02:07.000 --> 02:02:13.000

issue that needs addressed.

02:02:13.000 --> 02:02:16.000

We know that COVID is a serious health risk for people

02:02:16.000 --> 02:02:20.000

with developmental disabilities so that's why we are asking that

02:02:20.000 --> 02:02:24.000

every time we reach out to our elected officials we're including

02:02:24.000 --> 02:02:29.000

language like this. We need their help getting access to COVID

02:02:29.000 --> 02:02:36.000

vaccines. People with developmental disabilities are not

02:02:36.000 --> 02:02:37.000

prioritized until 1c, considering high risk of people with

02:02:37.000 --> 02:02:41.000

developmental disabilities.

02:02:41.000 --> 02:02:47.000

We recently heard from governor Kemp they're halfway

02:02:47.000 --> 02:02:51.000

through phase 1a. We've been giving vaccines in that group

02:02:51.000 --> 02:02:55.000

since December and if people with developmental disabilities are

02:02:55.000 --> 02:02:59.000

not prioritized until 1c, we know that would be many many months

02:02:59.000 --> 02:03:01.000

before people with developmental disabilities receive COVID

02:03:01.000 --> 02:03:01.000

vaccine and we know that's not acceptable.

02:03:01.000 --> 02:03:06.000

02:03:06.000 --> 02:03:11.000

We're encouraging our state representatives and

02:03:11.000 --> 02:03:15.000

senators to reach out to include our community in earlier faces.

02:03:15.000 --> 02:03:20.000

Thank you for LIS single and we're excited to work with you

02:03:20.000 --> 02:03:21.000

about how to reach out to our state representatives and senators

02:03:21.000 --> 02:03:25.000

about these asks.

02:03:25.000 --> 02:03:29.000

>> Thank you, Alyssa for that wonderful presentation

02:03:29.000 --> 02:03:39.000

and just a reminder, if you are looking for any of the resources

02:03:39.000 --> 02:03:42.000

mentioned today, that the link is in the chat,/IPSE and then

02:03:42.000 --> 02:03:47.000

we're now going to break for lunch but please note that there

02:03:47.000 --> 02:03:51.000

are two optional activities during the lunch break. If you're

02:03:51.000 --> 02:03:55.000

interested in going and getting your LUN you CH and coming and

02:03:55.000 --> 02:03:58.000

sitting at your computer and chatting informally with our

02:03:58.000 --> 02:04:02.000

participants, you can accept a prompt that will pop up on your

02:04:02.000 --> 02:04:07.000

screen around the 12 o'clock time frame to participate in a

02:04:07.000 --> 02:04:09.000

short 30-minute informal networking session, which is eating

02:04:09.000 --> 02:04:11.000

and chatting with some colleagues.

02:04:11.000 --> 02:04:12.000

If you choose not to do that, that's fine

02:04:12.000 --> 02:04:14.000

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02:04:14.000 --> 02:04:18.000

After that, for those who weren't logged on this

02:04:18.000 --> 02:04:22.000

morning, we're going to play that round of the short IPSE

02:04:22.000 --> 02:04:25.000

graduate videos that were so powerful this morning for any of

02:04:25.000 --> 02:04:30.000

you that didn't see those.

02:04:30.000 --> 02:04:34.000

So as Alyssa mentioned, we'll return after lunch at

02:04:34.000 --> 02:04:40.000

12:45, we'll hold a RAFL for those of you that come back and the

02:04:40.000 --> 02:04:46.000

social media advocacy workshop is next on the agenda at 12:45.

02:04:46.000 --> 02:05:16.000

Please join us back here at 12:45 and enjoy your lunch.

02:19:54.000 --> 02:19:54.000

raffle for those of you that come back and the social media advocacy workshop is next on the agenda at

02:19:54.000 --> 02:19:54.000

12:45. Please join us back here at 12:45 and enjoy your lunch.

02:19:54.000 --> 02:19:56.000

02:19:56.000 --> 02:19:57.000

02:19:57.000 --> 02:20:03.000

>> CHARLIE MILLER: So glad we got to

02:20:03.000 --> 02:20:08.000
share a zoom luncheon together.

02:20:08.000 --> 02:20:13.000
>> Hi, Emily.

02:20:13.000 --> 02:20:16.000
>> Hey. Hi, Charlie.

02:20:16.000 --> 02:20:24.000
>> CHARLIE MILLER: Who said hello?

02:20:24.000 --> 02:20:27.000
>> Emily White. I'm Cindy's daughter.

02:20:27.000 --> 02:20:28.000
Do you know Cindy White?

02:20:28.000 --> 02:20:34.000
>> CHARLIE MILLER: I do. I do.

02:20:34.000 --> 02:20:36.000
>> She's my mom.

02:20:36.000 --> 02:20:40.000
>> CHARLIE MILLER: Well, if you ever

02:20:40.000 --> 02:20:42.000
need any dirt, let me know. I'll be glad to hear

02:20:42.000 --> 02:21:01.000
some good stories.

02:21:01.000 --> 02:21:03.000
>> I talk to her every day. I'm with the DAUGS and

02:21:03.000 --> 02:21:09.000
I'm changing.

02:21:09.000 --> 02:21:11.000
>> CHARLIE MILLER: Really? That's awesome.

02:21:11.000 --> 02:21:16.000
>> ALYSSA MILLER: We loved, Emily,

02:21:16.000 --> 02:21:20.000
hearing your mother talk about your experience with

02:21:20.000 --> 02:21:21.000
destination DAWGS. Sounds like it's been a great time for

02:21:21.000 --> 02:21:28.000
you.

02:21:28.000 --> 02:21:30.000
>> It is. Today it's class after class. I won't get

02:21:30.000 --> 02:21:35.000
done until 3:00.

02:21:35.000 --> 02:21:41.000
I like her points. Just like me sometimes, she says

02:21:41.000 --> 02:21:43.000
Emily, you can do this. I know you can. But it's a really good

02:21:43.000 --> 02:21:49.000
time for her, to speak up.

02:21:49.000 --> 02:21:58.000
I live here in GA with my friends. She has good

02:21:58.000 --> 02:21:59.000
stories about me. Does my heart good to hear her.

02:21:59.000 --> 02:22:02.000
>> CHARLIE MILLER: Excellent. What

02:22:02.000 --> 02:22:06.000
are your favorite classes?

02:22:06.000 --> 02:22:14.000
>> My favorite class is, I got to say,

02:22:14.000 --> 02:22:28.000
journalism because I like to write. I like to

02:22:28.000 --> 02:22:32.000

write a lot. It helps me to know what I'm doing and I had dean

02:22:32.000 --> 02:22:33.000

Davis's class. It was really amazing.

02:22:33.000 --> 02:22:39.000

>> CHARLIE MILLER: Oh, nice. I know

02:22:39.000 --> 02:22:46.000

we're doing a zoom lunch-in so I have to ask, is

02:22:46.000 --> 02:22:50.000

anyone else eating or am I the only one who shamelessly has a

02:22:50.000 --> 02:22:54.000

plate of food in front of me?

02:22:54.000 --> 02:22:56.000

>> I've got my salad on standby.

02:22:56.000 --> 02:22:57.000

>> CHARLIE MILLER: Okay. I don't feel as bad

02:22:57.000 --> 02:23:02.000

anymore.

02:23:02.000 --> 02:23:05.000

>> Same.

02:23:05.000 --> 02:23:07.000

>> This is a busy day for you. You need to eat when

02:23:07.000 --> 02:23:09.000

you can.

02:23:09.000 --> 02:23:15.000

>> CHARLIE MILLER: Um-hum. Yeah, it's been a very

02:23:15.000 --> 02:23:21.000

busy day but, you know, IPSE day is one of my favorite ones.

02:23:21.000 --> 02:23:22.000

>> I'm sure. As it should be.

02:23:22.000 --> 02:23:26.000

>> ALYSSA MILLER: Do we have students

02:23:26.000 --> 02:23:28.000

from other programs who are in our networking

02:23:28.000 --> 02:23:34.000

lunch right now?

02:23:34.000 --> 02:23:37.000

>> Yeah, I'm from the University of west Georgia. Go

02:23:37.000 --> 02:23:44.000

wolves.

02:23:44.000 --> 02:23:46.000

>> CHARLIE MILLER: Uh-oh. Go Owls. Hooty hoot.

02:23:46.000 --> 02:23:59.000

>> ALYSSA MILLER: Get a little rival

02:23:59.000 --> 02:24:00.000

regoing? We're all friends here.

02:24:00.000 --> 02:24:03.000

>> CHARLIE MILLER: Good. Good.

02:24:03.000 --> 02:24:07.000

>> ALYSSA MILLER: I was thinking this

02:24:07.000 --> 02:24:11.000

morning. We got some really cold weather overnight

02:24:11.000 --> 02:24:15.000

and black ice. If we had been in person, oh, goodness, can you

02:24:15.000 --> 02:24:23.000

imagine having, from where all y'all are across Georgia, trying

02:24:23.000 --> 02:24:28.000

to get downtown Atlanta by 8:00 a.m.? There are some positives

02:24:28.000 --> 02:24:31.000

of our virtual world right now in terms of that.

02:24:31.000 --> 02:24:33.000

>> CHARLIE MILLER: Um-hum.

02:24:33.000 --> 02:24:37.000

>> Hey, I need to step out. Actually

02:24:37.000 --> 02:24:42.000

I'm going to the dining hall to get some lunch. Do you

02:24:42.000 --> 02:24:50.000

know when this networking is going to end? I want to make sure

02:24:50.000 --> 02:24:56.000

I don't miss. I like chatting to you guys and I don't want

02:24:56.000 --> 02:24:57.000

to miss this networking event. Could you tell me what time it

02:24:57.000 --> 02:24:59.000

ends?

02:24:59.000 --> 02:25:04.000

>> ALYSSA MILLER: Yes.

02:25:04.000 --> 02:25:06.000

>> CHARLIE MILLER: Sorry, Alyssa. It ends around

02:25:06.000 --> 02:25:12.000

12:45.

02:25:12.000 --> 02:25:16.000

>> All right. No, that's good. That's good. No,

02:25:16.000 --> 02:25:21.000

that's awesome. Please excuse me, I'm going to mute my

02:25:21.000 --> 02:25:23.000

microphone, go get lunch and come back, if that's okay.

02:25:23.000 --> 02:25:27.000

>> CHARLIE MILLER: No worries at all.

02:25:27.000 --> 02:25:28.000

I will start a timer until you get back and I'll tell

02:25:28.000 --> 02:25:31.000
you how long it takes.

02:25:31.000 --> 02:25:35.000
>> All right. Thanks, Charlie.

02:25:35.000 --> 02:25:49.000
>> CHARLIE MILLER: Of course, man.

02:25:49.000 --> 02:25:55.000
Is there anyone else from an IPSE in here? Okay. So

02:25:55.000 --> 02:26:06.000
we can give it some time. I just wanted to call out a friend of

02:26:06.000 --> 02:26:11.000
mine, Cheryl arttell. I saw her eyes get really big. Cheryl is

02:26:11.000 --> 02:26:18.000
one of the reasons IPSE is in Georgia. And then also, she's one

02:26:18.000 --> 02:26:24.000
of the reasons, one of my personal reasons, of why I really got

02:26:24.000 --> 02:26:27.000
into advocacy around IPSE. I just want to say thank you for

02:26:27.000 --> 02:26:31.000
being here, Cheryl.

02:26:31.000 --> 02:26:35.000
>> Wow, Charlie, thank you. You did it all yourself,

02:26:35.000 --> 02:26:41.000
man. We were there in the beginning, though, when we first

02:26:41.000 --> 02:26:45.000
started this crazy notion. And I have to give a shout out to

02:26:45.000 --> 02:26:49.000
your school because I went to all the other schools and your

02:26:49.000 --> 02:27:19.000

school is the first one to say okay, we'll give it a try with no

02:42:09.000 --> 02:42:39.000

statistics or anything to back us up as to why it made sense

02:46:34.000 --> 02:46:35.000

is made sense.

02:46:35.000 --> 02:47:05.000

02:47:54.000 --> 02:48:02.000

(Luncheon recess.)

02:48:02.000 --> 02:48:10.000

>> For those just joining us, we're on lunch break for

02:48:10.000 --> 02:48:21.000

the next 15 minutes.

02:48:21.000 --> 02:48:51.000

We're going to show a video that we played this

02:48:51.000 --> 02:49:21.000

morning about some of our graduates.

03:04:17.000 --> 03:04:20.000

(Video recording with captions playing.)

03:04:20.000 --> 03:04:24.000

>> Welcome back, everyone. I really

03:04:24.000 --> 03:04:28.000

hope you had a wonderful lunch break and those of you

03:04:28.000 --> 03:04:33.000

who had a chance to network during the networking lunch

03:04:33.000 --> 03:04:38.000

session made some new communities and friends. We were

03:04:38.000 --> 03:04:39.000

really sharing as people ate their lunches. It was a great

03:04:39.000 --> 03:04:43.000
opportunity.

03:04:43.000 --> 03:04:47.000
Before we get started, this afternoon in appreciation

03:04:47.000 --> 03:04:51.000
for you all taking your time out of your busy schedules and

03:04:51.000 --> 03:04:57.000
showing up to advocate, showing up is half the battle. Showing

03:04:57.000 --> 03:05:01.000
up with us today, we'll be drawing three RAFLZ this afternoon

03:05:01.000 --> 03:05:06.000
from those who logged on and are participating. We're going to

03:05:06.000 --> 03:05:17.000
draw the first raffle right now. The first raffle prize is

03:05:17.000 --> 03:05:22.000
called com fee and connected. Has a handmade quilt. We are

03:05:22.000 --> 03:05:29.000
going to pull at random someone from the meeting today and the

03:05:29.000 --> 03:05:40.000
withinner of raffle prize No. 1 is destiny Robinson.

03:05:40.000 --> 03:05:44.000
nner of raffle prize No. 1 is destiny Robinson.

03:05:44.000 --> 03:05:44.000
Congratulations! We will send that in the mail

03:05:44.000 --> 03:05:54.000
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03:05:54.000 --> 03:05:58.000
Now we have the pleasure of hearing from and mark

03:05:58.000 --> 03:06:01.000

Crenshaw, center for leadership and disability and Georgia state

03:06:01.000 --> 03:06:06.000

university and mark and Maria are going to share their expertise

03:06:06.000 --> 03:06:11.000

in the social media advocacy workshop and this workshop will be

03:06:11.000 --> 03:06:15.000

followed directly by a small group breakout session so we'll be

03:06:15.000 --> 03:06:18.000

breaking out into four separate sessions. After the breakout

03:06:18.000 --> 03:06:22.000

sessions we're going to come back together in this main group

03:06:22.000 --> 03:06:25.000

and the group leaders for the sessions will do a high level

03:06:25.000 --> 03:06:29.000

quick take away of what was discussed in the small groups. We

03:06:29.000 --> 03:06:34.000

always find that's a really good opportunity for everyone in the

03:06:34.000 --> 03:06:36.000

larger group to hear some of the critical points and suggestions

03:06:36.000 --> 03:06:42.000

in the smaller groups.

03:06:42.000 --> 03:06:47.000

I will also mention that if you need ASL or need or

03:06:47.000 --> 03:06:51.000

prefer ASL and CART, to please, during the breakout sessions, to

03:06:51.000 --> 03:06:56.000

please message us in the chat and we will make sure we assign

03:06:56.000 --> 03:06:58.000

you to room No. 1 which will have ASL and CART available in

03:06:58.000 --> 03:07:08.000
those breakout rooms.

03:07:08.000 --> 03:07:21.000
So now I will turn it over and we will hear from mark

03:07:21.000 --> 03:07:28.000
and Maria on social advocacy.

03:07:28.000 --> 03:07:32.000
>> MARK CRENSHAW: Hello, y'all. I'm Mark Crenshaw

03:07:32.000 --> 03:07:39.000
and I'm a real nerd about social media, so that's why I'm here.

03:07:39.000 --> 03:07:43.000
And I'm here to present about social media as an advocacy tool,

03:07:43.000 --> 03:07:49.000
so we want to talk about using the social media platforms to

03:07:49.000 --> 03:07:54.000
connect with your legislators, policy makers and with the larger

03:07:54.000 --> 03:07:55.000
community to share messages about advocacy.

03:07:55.000 --> 03:08:02.000
>> MARIA PINKELTON: Good afternoon,

03:08:02.000 --> 03:08:05.000
everybody, I'm Maria pink Kel ton, I manage in-house

03:08:05.000 --> 03:08:09.000
electronic and social media efforts and I'm also here to

03:08:09.000 --> 03:08:13.000
share with Mark in telling you all about using social media

03:08:13.000 --> 03:08:14.000
platforms to further your advocacy work.

03:08:14.000 --> 03:08:20.000
>> MARK CRENSHAW: I just want to go

03:08:20.000 --> 03:08:24.000

over a little bit today on this next slide kind of what

03:08:24.000 --> 03:08:29.000

our goals are for this presentation, so I want you to be able

03:08:29.000 --> 03:08:33.000

to say at the end, this is what I learned. So first we'll

03:08:33.000 --> 03:08:37.000

talk about how to find out who your representatives are, that's

03:08:37.000 --> 03:08:40.000

the first thing. And then second, from there, we'll talk about

03:08:40.000 --> 03:08:44.000

what information you can learn about them from the state of

03:08:44.000 --> 03:08:44.000

Georgia legislative website and other web sites as well

03:08:44.000 --> 03:08:47.000

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03:08:47.000 --> 03:08:56.000

And then the third thing we'll talk about is how to

03:08:56.000 --> 03:08:58.000

find their social media handles and channels and their web sites

03:08:58.000 --> 03:08:58.000

and additional ways to connect with them

03:08:58.000 --> 03:09:01.000

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03:09:01.000 --> 03:09:05.000

And then the fourth thing, which is pretty important,

03:09:05.000 --> 03:09:08.000

we'll talk about what to say and how to say it once you have

03:09:08.000 --> 03:09:10.000

figured out how to connect with them.

03:09:10.000 --> 03:09:16.000

I want to start this presentation with

03:09:16.000 --> 03:09:23.000

a little bit of good news. The good news is lots of

03:09:23.000 --> 03:09:28.000

people who are constituents to these representatives and senators

03:09:28.000 --> 03:09:33.000

who work for us at the Georgia state capital don't reach out

03:09:33.000 --> 03:09:38.000

to them. So the idea that you, as a constituent, are reaching

03:09:38.000 --> 03:09:43.000

out to them puts you ahead of the game. Because you are

03:09:43.000 --> 03:09:47.000

interested in connecting with them to talk about policy, to talk about

03:09:47.000 --> 03:09:51.000

issues that impact people with disabilities and their families,

03:09:51.000 --> 03:09:55.000

to talk about things in the state budget that are important to

03:09:55.000 --> 03:10:04.000

you, that puts you ahead of the game in terms of your ability

03:10:04.000 --> 03:10:07.000

to influence the ways that your legislators vote and the ways

03:10:07.000 --> 03:10:10.000

that they think about the issues that impact you and your

03:10:10.000 --> 03:10:12.000

family.

03:10:12.000 --> 03:10:17.000

>> MARIA PINKELTON: So now that you've heard all of

03:10:17.000 --> 03:10:26.000

that, where do you begin? There is an image on the current

03:10:26.000 --> 03:10:31.000

slide of two hands holding a tablet and words connector at the

03:10:31.000 --> 03:10:34.000

top with different social media options. We know there are a

03:10:34.000 --> 03:10:34.000

lot of options for social media engagement

03:10:34.000 --> 03:10:38.000

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03:10:38.000 --> 03:10:43.000

If you are new to social media or used to using it in

03:10:43.000 --> 03:10:46.000

more social and friendly, people you may know, ways, it may seem

03:10:46.000 --> 03:10:53.000

daunting for you to have a professional approach and voice in

03:10:53.000 --> 03:11:00.000

addressing people in social media platforms. So on the next

03:11:00.000 --> 03:11:08.000

slide, we address: Do your research. Who are my Georgia state

03:11:08.000 --> 03:11:11.000

senator and representative? So if you visit open space dot o r

03:11:11.000 --> 03:11:20.000

g which is a wonderful website that helps you find out who

03:11:20.000 --> 03:11:31.000

exactly your people are, it can get you the names of both your

03:11:31.000 --> 03:11:36.000

senator and your ledges late tore. It asks that you enter your

03:11:36.000 --> 03:11:40.000

street address. Streets matter and neighborhood divides matter.

03:11:40.000 --> 03:11:43.000

Just because your friend two minutes away have one

03:11:43.000 --> 03:11:45.000

representative, doesn't mean you have the same representative

03:11:45.000 --> 03:11:48.000

even if you live in the same city.

03:11:48.000 --> 03:11:54.000

After entering that address, you are given some

03:11:54.000 --> 03:12:01.000

information about your elected officials. On that page, once

03:12:01.000 --> 03:12:05.000

you click into either the senator or the ledges late tore's head

03:12:05.000 --> 03:12:08.000

shot, what can you learn about them?

03:12:08.000 --> 03:12:14.000

Soy on the pages that have been offered to us by the

03:12:14.000 --> 03:12:19.000

state of Georgia, they list your representative's day job, their

03:12:19.000 --> 03:12:23.000

assistant's name, where they went to school -- I'm sorry, where

03:12:23.000 --> 03:12:27.000

they went to school, where they live, religious affiliations.

03:12:27.000 --> 03:12:32.000

If you click on the small black box that I think now appears on

03:12:32.000 --> 03:12:36.000

the bottom of all of their pages, that lists their biography,

03:12:36.000 --> 03:12:40.000

they get pretty deep into it about their religious affiliation.

03:12:40.000 --> 03:12:42.000

Are they married? Do they have kids? A lot of different points

03:12:42.000 --> 03:12:44.000
of connection.

03:12:44.000 --> 03:12:48.000
You can see what their interests may be in the

03:12:48.000 --> 03:12:51.000
community as well as it lists what committees they are serving

03:12:51.000 --> 03:12:56.000
on. You can learn are the committees relevant to disability

03:12:56.000 --> 03:13:00.000
issues? And you can also know the limits of their authority,

03:13:00.000 --> 03:13:04.000
meaning what this person can help decide and what is out of

03:13:04.000 --> 03:13:08.000
their hands. So you wouldn't for example ask your Georgia

03:13:08.000 --> 03:13:10.000
senator or representative about stimulus checks, for example, as

03:13:10.000 --> 03:13:16.000
that is a federal decision.

03:13:16.000 --> 03:13:20.000
So you can get a nice view on the open state's page

03:13:20.000 --> 03:13:24.000
and into the state of Georgia's website of everyone sitting

03:13:24.000 --> 03:13:25.000
under the gold dome, a nice snapshot of information about them

03:13:25.000 --> 03:13:34.000
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03:13:34.000 --> 03:13:39.000
So that is an an openstate dot organize look into

03:13:39.000 --> 03:13:43.000

those people but what can you also learn about them in a Google

03:13:43.000 --> 03:13:45.000

search? For a lot of our representatives here in Georgia, their

03:13:45.000 --> 03:13:49.000

social media teams have made it so

03:13:49.000 --> 03:13:55.000

when you Google their name, all of the positive information shows

03:13:55.000 --> 03:14:05.000

up about them and on your screen, you see the Google search

03:14:05.000 --> 03:14:11.000

results for ran neat ta Sharon who is actually one of my legislators

03:14:11.000 --> 03:14:16.000

here. As you can see her website comes up on the Google page,

03:14:16.000 --> 03:14:20.000

her head 1 shot from the state of Georgia appears on the right

03:14:20.000 --> 03:14:21.000

hand side as well as all the social media platforms that she's

03:14:21.000 --> 03:14:26.000

on.

03:14:26.000 --> 03:14:30.000

Not all of your legislators or senators will have had

03:14:30.000 --> 03:14:34.000

this done. A lot of them have pretty up to date and

03:14:34.000 --> 03:14:39.000

knowledgeable social media staff, but you may have it this easy

03:14:39.000 --> 03:14:41.000

or you may have to do a little bit more work to find out where

03:14:41.000 --> 03:14:48.000

their social media handles are. Generally that information can

03:14:48.000 --> 03:14:59.000

be accessed if you click that link at the top that says ran neat

03:14:59.000 --> 03:15:00.000

taShannon.com, usually they post direct links to their media

03:15:00.000 --> 03:15:03.000

channel.

03:15:03.000 --> 03:15:05.000

Mark, I will pass it off to you.

03:15:05.000 --> 03:15:08.000

>> MARK CRENSHAW: The question is now that you found

03:15:08.000 --> 03:15:15.000

them, now that you know that your senator or representative has

03:15:15.000 --> 03:15:21.000

a presence on Facebook or Twitter or on LinkedIn or on snapchat,

03:15:21.000 --> 03:15:26.000

what do you do with that information, right? So anytime you are

03:15:26.000 --> 03:15:30.000

reaching out to communicate with your representative or your --

03:15:30.000 --> 03:15:34.000

your Georgia state representative or your Georgia state senator,

03:15:34.000 --> 03:15:39.000

the first thing you do is you identify yourself as a constituent

03:15:39.000 --> 03:15:44.000

and this is the case whether you are connecting with them on

03:15:44.000 --> 03:15:48.000

Facebook or Twitter or LinkedIn or whether you are connecting

03:15:48.000 --> 03:15:49.000

with them on the phone or in person or via email

03:15:49.000 --> 03:15:52.000

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03:15:52.000 --> 03:15:59.000

The first thing you always want to do is to say: I'm

03:15:59.000 --> 03:16:03.000

a constituent and I live at, and give your address. Because

03:16:03.000 --> 03:16:09.000

what that signals to your senator or your representative is that

03:16:09.000 --> 03:16:14.000

you're a constituent and you vote for them, right? So they are

03:16:14.000 --> 03:16:16.000

going to pay particular attention to information from people who

03:16:16.000 --> 03:16:22.000

are their constituents.

03:16:22.000 --> 03:16:23.000

So you want to be clear that you are a constituent

03:16:23.000 --> 03:16:26.000

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03:16:26.000 --> 03:16:29.000

The second thing we would say about sort of what

03:16:29.000 --> 03:16:34.000

you're communicating to these folks once you connect with them

03:16:34.000 --> 03:16:39.000

is be brief and make sure that the senator or representative

03:16:39.000 --> 03:16:45.000

knows what you want them to do.

03:16:45.000 --> 03:16:49.000

So I have been in prepandemic at the ropes, at the

03:16:49.000 --> 03:16:54.000

Georgia state capital and, you know, talked to my representative

03:16:54.000 --> 03:16:58.000
about an issue and if I'm not clear about what action I want him

03:16:58.000 --> 03:17:01.000
to take, he will often ask at the end of the conversation. Yes,

03:17:01.000 --> 03:17:05.000
what can I do for you, right?

03:17:05.000 --> 03:17:09.000
So you want to be clear, in your communication, be

03:17:09.000 --> 03:17:15.000
brief and be clear about what the issue that you're contacting

03:17:15.000 --> 03:17:16.000
them about is, and what you want them to do.

03:17:16.000 --> 03:17:24.000

03:17:24.000 --> 03:17:28.000
And so in the context of the issues related to people

03:17:28.000 --> 03:17:31.000
with intellectual and developmental disabilities, it might

03:17:31.000 --> 03:17:34.000
actually help them to know that you're a family member of a

03:17:34.000 --> 03:17:40.000
person with a disability or a person with a disability, a

03:17:40.000 --> 03:17:46.000
self-advocate who's reaching out to them about issues. So be

03:17:46.000 --> 03:17:51.000
brief, be concise, stick to one issue per message. Sometimes

03:17:51.000 --> 03:17:54.000
that's difficult but, you know, don't bombard them with three

03:17:54.000 --> 03:17:58.000
messages in one communication.

03:17:58.000 --> 03:18:01.000

Obviously, the third thing, the third bullet point on

03:18:01.000 --> 03:18:05.000

this list is be curious and thank them for taking the time to

03:18:05.000 --> 03:18:12.000

read your correspondence. Thank them for engaging with you on

03:18:12.000 --> 03:18:16.000

Facebook or on Twitter or on LinkedIn or on snapchat, any of

03:18:16.000 --> 03:18:19.000

these platforms. Thank them for taking the time to read your

03:18:19.000 --> 03:18:23.000

correspondence, to receive your ask, and to read it and to

03:18:23.000 --> 03:18:27.000

respond to it.

03:18:27.000 --> 03:18:32.000

Just remember, as you're engaging in this

03:18:32.000 --> 03:18:40.000

communication with your senator and your representative, that

03:18:40.000 --> 03:18:43.000

having a clear and concise message and a clear ask, being a

03:18:43.000 --> 03:18:48.000

constituent with a disability or a family member or an advocate

03:18:48.000 --> 03:18:52.000

makes you a credible source about disability issues. So over

03:18:52.000 --> 03:18:58.000

time, you're trying to build a relationship with this senator or

03:18:58.000 --> 03:19:00.000

representative. And over time, social media can be a part of

03:19:00.000 --> 03:19:01.000

that relationship-building strategy, right?

03:19:01.000 --> 03:19:07.000

03:19:07.000 --> 03:19:12.000

So you want to consist TANTly be clear, be concise,

03:19:12.000 --> 03:19:18.000

consistently talk about issues, engage them in conversation on

03:19:18.000 --> 03:19:23.000

social media about issues that impact George JINZ with

03:19:23.000 --> 03:19:31.000

disabilities and their families. Make the conversation, make

03:19:31.000 --> 03:19:31.000

ians with disabilities and their families. Make

03:19:31.000 --> 03:19:34.000

the conversation, make the conversation, you know, using

03:19:34.000 --> 03:19:40.000

social media is in many ways the short form of having a

03:19:40.000 --> 03:19:41.000

conversation. Be as engaging as you can be as you do that. That helps

03:19:41.000 --> 03:19:43.000

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03:19:43.000 --> 03:19:46.000

The second thing I would say to remember, we talked

03:19:46.000 --> 03:19:49.000

about being a credible source about disability issues. The

03:19:49.000 --> 03:19:54.000

second thing I would say to remember is tagging someone in a

03:19:54.000 --> 03:19:58.000

post is not equal to making connections, right? So just tagging

03:19:58.000 --> 03:20:05.000

all of the moms of kids with disabilities in your Facebook post

03:20:05.000 --> 03:20:11.000

or in your Twitter post or in your LinkedIn post, that isn't the

03:20:11.000 --> 03:20:19.000

same as building community around the issue. So, you know, you

03:20:19.000 --> 03:20:24.000

might sort of leave social media and reach out to a group of

03:20:24.000 --> 03:20:29.000

people who are also concerned about the issues to get them to

03:20:29.000 --> 03:20:32.000

engage on the social challenge, but don't just tag 15 friends

03:20:32.000 --> 03:20:40.000

who have disabilities or who are parents of people with

03:20:40.000 --> 03:20:44.000

disabilities and, you know, you want to build a consistent

03:20:44.000 --> 03:20:50.000

community with a concise message so that you are trusted over

03:20:50.000 --> 03:20:53.000

time to engage with your senator or representative on the social

03:20:53.000 --> 03:20:57.000

channels.

03:20:57.000 --> 03:21:00.000

Social media is one part of a strategy, right? One

03:21:00.000 --> 03:21:06.000

part of a strategy for building a relationship with your senator

03:21:06.000 --> 03:21:11.000

or your representative. It isn't the end all be all for sure.

03:21:11.000 --> 03:21:21.000

But if your senator or representative is engaged on Facebook or

03:21:21.000 --> 03:21:29.000

on Twitter or on LinkedIn or on snapchat or on particulartock,

03:21:29.000 --> 03:21:44.000

it is one additional opportunity for you to share a message and

03:21:44.000 --> 03:21:47.000

it doesn't cost you a lot; it's pretty quick to do it; and

03:21:47.000 --> 03:21:51.000

because you do it on a social media platform, other people can

03:21:51.000 --> 03:21:55.000

join in the conversation as well and say, yes, this is important

03:21:55.000 --> 03:21:58.000

to me, too. So that's something that you don't get from sending

03:21:58.000 --> 03:22:02.000

an email to a a senator or representative, is you don't get

03:22:02.000 --> 03:22:10.000

other folks to say, yes, I'm in favor of this policy or I'm in

03:22:10.000 --> 03:22:13.000

favor of this budgetary item.

03:22:13.000 --> 03:22:19.000

You can create community around an issue or around an

03:22:19.000 --> 03:22:20.000

ask and it's creating a consensus around the conversation.

03:22:20.000 --> 03:22:24.000

03:22:24.000 --> 03:22:29.000

As we talk about sort of what to do, once you engage,

03:22:29.000 --> 03:22:34.000

once you connect to your legislators on social media, I wanted

03:22:34.000 --> 03:22:38.000

to give an example. My representative is David drier, who's the

03:22:38.000 --> 03:22:50.000

representative for a district here in the city of Atlanta and he

03:22:50.000 --> 03:22:54.000

was very involved in, he was very involved in supporting people

03:22:54.000 --> 03:22:59.000

in exercising their right to vote during the presidential

03:22:59.000 --> 03:23:02.000

election and I had a friend who posted on Twitter, a friend with

03:23:02.000 --> 03:23:08.000

a disability who posted on Twitter, that he was having a hard

03:23:08.000 --> 03:23:11.000

time casting his vote at his polling precinct because the voting

03:23:11.000 --> 03:23:16.000

equipment wasn't accessible to him.

03:23:16.000 --> 03:23:20.000

And so I reached out to my representative who I knew

03:23:20.000 --> 03:23:24.000

was going around providing support to folks who are expressing

03:23:24.000 --> 03:23:31.000

having a hard time voting, and my representative got back to me

03:23:31.000 --> 03:23:35.000

right away on social media and said, you know, I'll check into

03:23:35.000 --> 03:23:40.000

this and we'll see what we can do to make sure that the

03:23:40.000 --> 03:23:44.000

gentleman has, you know, what he needs to vote at his precinct

03:23:44.000 --> 03:23:50.000

and actually my representative drove over to the polling place

03:23:50.000 --> 03:23:57.000

and was able to intervene to make sure that my friend was able

03:23:57.000 --> 03:24:03.000

to vote, was able to cast his vote, and I was really pleased

03:24:03.000 --> 03:24:11.000

sort of about sort of being able to engage on social media, sort

03:24:11.000 --> 03:24:17.000

of see an issue with access to voting as an example connect with

03:24:17.000 --> 03:24:28.000

my ledges late tore who I knew was actively supporting people to

03:24:28.000 --> 03:24:31.000

be able to cast their votes that day and he asked me to take it

03:24:31.000 --> 03:24:36.000

off social media to send him some details about the situation

03:24:36.000 --> 03:24:36.000

and we were able to work together to get the situation resolved.

03:24:36.000 --> 03:24:44.000

03:24:44.000 --> 03:24:49.000

Made me feel good as a constituent that my ledges tore

03:24:49.000 --> 03:24:52.000

was actively engaged in helping people be able to vote and made

03:24:52.000 --> 03:25:22.000

me feel really good that I could do something positive to

03:25:33.000 --> 03:25:33.000

were able to work together to get the situation resolved. something positive to support my friend to be able to cast a Made me feel good as a constituent

03:25:33.000 --> 03:25:33.000

that my ledges tore was actively engaged in helping people be able to vote and made me feel really good that I could do ballot that day.

03:25:33.000 --> 03:25:33.000

That's one example. Often conversations will start on social media with elected officials and sort of ask that, you know, you send an email or call on the phone, things like that.

03:25:33.000 --> 03:25:34.000

That certainly happened in this example. But, you know, one example of sort of using social media to start a conversation

03:25:34.000 --> 03:25:39.000

that, with a legislator that ended up making a positive

03:25:39.000 --> 03:25:43.000

difference on a specific day and time. So, you know, I love

03:25:43.000 --> 03:25:48.000

sharing that story because I think it's a really practical

03:25:48.000 --> 03:25:53.000

example about how you can work with folks to solve problems and

03:25:53.000 --> 03:25:55.000

to overcome barriers that get in the way of folks doing what's

03:25:55.000 --> 03:25:58.000

important to them sometimes.

03:25:58.000 --> 03:26:03.000

>> MARIA PINKELTON: So now that you know a lot about

03:26:03.000 --> 03:26:09.000

reaching out and what to say, we want to support your efforts no

03:26:09.000 --> 03:26:11.000

matter how well-healed or novice you are when it comes to

03:26:11.000 --> 03:26:12.000

working on social media with a couple of resources

03:26:12.000 --> 03:26:16.000

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03:26:16.000 --> 03:26:22.000

The first is self-advocacy through media is the first

03:26:22.000 --> 03:26:32.000

resource we have for you. They actually have an autistic,

03:26:32.000 --> 03:26:36.000

developmental disability, making sure you say the right thing in

03:26:36.000 --> 03:26:42.000

the right way to the right people and conveying your message and

03:26:42.000 --> 03:26:43.000

sharing your true lived experience and how policy affects your

03:26:43.000 --> 03:26:49.000

day-to-day life.

03:26:49.000 --> 03:26:52.000

And the second resource is dozen and DOPTS of staying

03:26:52.000 --> 03:26:56.000

safe on the internet. If you are new to the world of the world

03:26:56.000 --> 03:26:59.000

wide web and the internet, this is a great place to begin. Do

03:26:59.000 --> 03:27:04.000

know that if you are apprehensive about this and you have people

03:27:04.000 --> 03:27:05.000

great place to begin. Do know that if you are apprehensive

03:27:05.000 --> 03:27:06.000

to the world of the world wide web and the internet, this is a don'ts of staying
safe on the internet. If you are new

03:27:06.000 --> 03:27:09.000

about this and you have people in your life who you look to to

03:27:09.000 --> 03:27:13.000

support your decisions and become as knowledgeable and educated

03:27:13.000 --> 03:27:18.000

as possible before making decisions, you can definitely consult

03:27:18.000 --> 03:27:19.000

with them on safe ways to advocate through the internet

03:27:19.000 --> 03:27:23.000

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03:27:23.000 --> 03:27:26.000

And these links will be provided for you in follow-up

03:27:26.000 --> 03:27:27.000

details after this advocacy day via email

03:27:27.000 --> 03:27:34.000

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03:27:34.000 --> 03:27:40.000

I would like to invite you all to also attend the

03:27:40.000 --> 03:27:47.000

connecting with your legislator panel that will be following

03:27:47.000 --> 03:27:52.000

later on in the day, this advocacy day, led by GCDD's

03:27:52.000 --> 03:27:58.000

legislative advocacy director, Charlie Miller, as well as our

03:27:58.000 --> 03:28:03.000

advocacy fellow, Naomi Williams, and they're going to give you a

03:28:03.000 --> 03:28:07.000

little bit deeper dive into how you can connect via letter. If

03:28:07.000 --> 03:28:09.000

you are all about old school, typing it out, writing it out,

03:28:09.000 --> 03:28:11.000

there's no shame in that.

03:28:11.000 --> 03:28:16.000

That panel will also give you a little bit more

03:28:16.000 --> 03:28:22.000

knowledge as to hey, can I get a prewritten template? I feel

03:28:22.000 --> 03:28:22.000

safer that way. Definitely tune in to that panel as well. And

03:28:22.000 --> 03:28:26.000

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03:28:26.000 --> 03:28:32.000

I would like to thank you for joining us. Currently

03:28:32.000 --> 03:28:34.000

on the screen is our, mi as well as Mark Crenshaw's email

03:28:34.000 --> 03:28:40.000

addresses if you would like to reach out with any further

03:28:40.000 --> 03:28:42.000

questions about your social media advocacy effort.

03:28:42.000 --> 03:28:45.000

>> MARK CRENSHAW: Thank you all so

03:28:45.000 --> 03:28:50.000

much for taking the time to listen to us and look

03:28:50.000 --> 03:28:54.000

forward to engaging you and as Maria said, don't hesitate to reach

03:28:54.000 --> 03:29:08.000

out, if there are questions we can answer about strategies for

03:29:08.000 --> 03:29:12.000

using social media as a tool to engage in advocacy.

03:29:12.000 --> 03:29:14.000

>> Thank you so so much Mark and Maria

03:29:14.000 --> 03:29:19.000

for those wonderful tips. I know everyone is

03:29:19.000 --> 03:29:26.000

excited to be able to use what we learned through Alyssa's

03:29:26.000 --> 03:29:32.000

presentation, the legislative ask and the social media tips. I know

03:29:32.000 --> 03:29:36.000

there will probably be a lot of questions around social media,

03:29:36.000 --> 03:29:37.000

just so that this group is active on chat and social media as

03:29:37.000 --> 03:29:40.000

well.

03:29:40.000 --> 03:29:47.000

We're going to break out into four small groups. The

03:29:47.000 --> 03:29:50.000

small groups will be led by Mark, Maria, Alyssa and Julie. You

03:29:50.000 --> 03:29:55.000

will automatically be put into a small group. If you prefer to

03:29:55.000 --> 03:29:59.000

be in the group that has CART and ASL, that is group 1. If you

03:29:59.000 --> 03:30:00.000

can mention that in the chat, we will get you in there

03:30:00.000 --> 03:30:02.000

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03:30:02.000 --> 03:30:07.000

So we're going to take about five minutes so everybody

03:30:07.000 --> 03:30:09.000

gets where they need to be in these small groups and we'll have

03:30:09.000 --> 03:30:14.000

about 25 minutes of discussion. This is really an opportunity

03:30:14.000 --> 03:30:17.000

to ask your group leader or each other, what have we done on

03:30:17.000 --> 03:30:19.000

social media that works, that doesn't work, and really just have

03:30:19.000 --> 03:30:24.000
a smaller conversation.

03:30:24.000 --> 03:30:28.000
After that, we will come back into larger groups and

03:30:28.000 --> 03:30:33.000
the group leaders will have an opportunity to share kind of high

03:30:33.000 --> 03:30:36.000
level, a one or two-minute take away, something they thought was

03:30:36.000 --> 03:30:40.000
really interesting, a group suggestion or generally what the

03:30:40.000 --> 03:30:43.000
discussion was so the entire group can hear a little bit from

03:30:43.000 --> 03:30:46.000
each of the four small groups.

03:30:46.000 --> 03:30:50.000
We'll be opening up those breakout rooms right now.

03:30:50.000 --> 03:30:56.000
You should get a prompt on screen. If for some reason you don't

03:30:56.000 --> 03:30:58.000
get a prompt on screen, you can click on the breakout room icon

03:30:58.000 --> 03:31:01.000
at the bottom of your bar.

03:31:01.000 --> 03:31:08.000
We've got about five minutes that we will get people

03:31:08.000 --> 03:31:38.000
going into the breakout rooms. See you shortly.

03:31:42.000 --> 03:31:47.000

03:31:47.000 --> 03:31:49.000
>> Hello. How's everybody doing?

03:31:49.000 --> 03:31:53.000

>> ALYSSA MILLER: Hey, everybody.

03:31:53.000 --> 03:32:10.000

We'll give it a couple of minutes, seconds, for people

03:32:10.000 --> 03:32:21.000

to join into our small group. Hope y'all have enjoyed the

03:32:21.000 --> 03:32:24.000

content so far today.

03:32:24.000 --> 03:32:28.000

>> We've had some good presenters, good information

03:32:28.000 --> 03:32:31.000

this year. Hi, Alyssa.

03:32:31.000 --> 03:32:35.000

>> ALYSSA MILLER: Hello. Yeah, we definitely tried

03:32:35.000 --> 03:32:40.000

to, since we're virtual, increase some of the information we're

03:32:40.000 --> 03:32:45.000

able to share. I was talking during the networking lunch that

03:32:45.000 --> 03:32:50.000

even though there are some things that are sort of a bummer

03:32:50.000 --> 03:32:56.000

about not being in person with everyone, it's nice things about

03:32:56.000 --> 03:32:59.000

being virtual. Especially we got some rainy icy weather

03:32:59.000 --> 03:33:04.000

overnight, what that would have looked like this morning trying

03:33:04.000 --> 03:33:06.000

to get to downtown Atlanta at 8 o'clock in the morning.

03:33:06.000 --> 03:33:11.000

>> Yes, it might have been one of

03:33:11.000 --> 03:33:14.000

>> ALYSSA MILLER: It might have been.

03:33:14.000 --> 03:33:18.000

those canceled days. >> Or at least low turnout.

03:33:18.000 --> 03:33:19.000

>> ALYSSA MILLER: I think we can

03:33:19.000 --> 03:33:25.000

probably go on, get started, and if people join in, that

03:33:25.000 --> 03:33:29.000

would be great. As Kimberly mentioned right before we

03:33:29.000 --> 03:33:32.000

popped in here, one of my favorite features of zoom, just take

03:33:32.000 --> 03:33:37.000

me where I need to go, Kimberly mentioned this is just

03:33:37.000 --> 03:33:45.000

opportunity for us to chat in like a small group setting about how

03:33:45.000 --> 03:33:51.000

maybe we view social media around advocating. Could be

03:33:51.000 --> 03:33:56.000

specifically to our state representatives or senators or maybe

03:33:56.000 --> 03:34:01.000

in advocacy groups in Facebook or Twitter. Also if there

03:34:01.000 --> 03:34:05.000

are any questions anyone has during that time, this would be a

03:34:05.000 --> 03:34:11.000

great opportunity for us to ask the group because I bet we have

03:34:11.000 --> 03:34:21.000

some very savvy social media users who are in this group

03:34:21.000 --> 03:34:25.000

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03:34:25.000 --> 03:34:29.000

Anyone want to jump in first? I'm kind of curious, I

03:34:29.000 --> 03:34:34.000

have a question for the group I was thinking about as we were

03:34:34.000 --> 03:34:40.000

listening to that social media presentation, and y'all might

03:34:40.000 --> 03:34:46.000

hear something that sounds a bit like a pigeon. That's my cat.

03:34:46.000 --> 03:34:50.000

It's another fun thing about working, teleworking and being

03:34:50.000 --> 03:34:53.000

virtual is we cannot control even as much as we try, when our

03:34:53.000 --> 03:34:57.000

pets decide that they need attention.

03:34:57.000 --> 03:35:00.000

So I've had people in the past stop me and say does

03:35:00.000 --> 03:35:05.000

anyone in here hear like a bird? I just wanted to let you know

03:35:05.000 --> 03:35:05.000

that, so you're not crazy. Okay, we got to stop

03:35:05.000 --> 03:35:08.000

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03:35:08.000 --> 03:35:12.000

So a question that was coming to my mind as I was

03:35:12.000 --> 03:35:16.000

listening to Mark and Maria talk about social media was. The.

03:35:16.000 --> 03:35:22.000

Wouldn't it be cool if we could think of a hashtag to use? I

03:35:22.000 --> 03:35:29.000

know that's something that sort of goes along way in connecting

03:35:29.000 --> 03:35:33.000

our advocacy efforts by topic, and I don't know that we have an

03:35:33.000 --> 03:35:34.000

IPSE hashtag. I don't know if other groups will come together

03:35:34.000 --> 03:35:38.000

and think about it.

03:35:38.000 --> 03:35:50.000

Maybe to break the ice, I'm wondering if anyone has

03:35:50.000 --> 03:35:52.000

any hashtag ideas for Facebook or Twitter.

03:35:52.000 --> 03:35:55.000

>> We used a hashtag, I don't know if

03:35:55.000 --> 03:36:00.000

it was last year or the year before, they were asking

03:36:00.000 --> 03:36:01.000

people to use with social media.

03:36:01.000 --> 03:36:03.000

>> ALYSSA MILLER: Yeah, I can't

03:36:03.000 --> 03:36:05.000

remember what that is.

03:36:05.000 --> 03:36:09.000

>> I was trying to remember that. It

03:36:09.000 --> 03:36:13.000

occurred to me, was it something like hashtag

03:36:13.000 --> 03:36:19.000

inclusive communities or something like that? Or maybe that's something

03:36:19.000 --> 03:36:20.000

we've used internally at G S U, I don't know.

03:36:20.000 --> 03:36:23.000

>> ALYSSA MILLER: I'm not sure but I

03:36:23.000 --> 03:36:29.000

like that hashtag and we can come up with our

03:36:29.000 --> 03:36:31.000

own, too, if anybody has any other ideas.

03:36:31.000 --> 03:36:37.000

>> Do you have any ideas? You're

03:36:37.000 --> 03:36:41.000

pretty active on social media. Specifically Tictok,

03:36:41.000 --> 03:36:42.000

right?

03:36:42.000 --> 03:36:47.000

>> Yeah.

03:36:47.000 --> 03:36:51.000

>> Do you ever post on particular tock or do you just

03:36:51.000 --> 03:36:58.000

use it to watch different videos?

03:36:58.000 --> 03:37:02.000

>> I use it a lot.

03:37:02.000 --> 03:37:05.000

>> Do you use hashtags there?

03:37:05.000 --> 03:37:10.000

>> No.

03:37:10.000 --> 03:37:14.000

>> Understanding how we can use hashtags so people

03:37:14.000 --> 03:37:20.000

can, using a hashtag allows you to search or find the same kind

03:37:20.000 --> 03:37:25.000

of content in different places. So a hashtag is if you post one

03:37:25.000 --> 03:37:30.000

thing in one place, and something somewhere else, you can use

03:37:30.000 --> 03:37:32.000

the TASHtag to look across different posts.

03:37:32.000 --> 03:37:36.000

>> I appreciate you explaining that

03:37:36.000 --> 03:37:40.000

because I admit I'm pretty ignorant with regard to

03:37:40.000 --> 03:37:45.000

social media so I never quite understood the purpose of a hashtag.

03:37:45.000 --> 03:37:49.000

I thought it was some sort of shout out but now I get it.

03:37:49.000 --> 03:37:53.000

>> Yeah, it is, you can add multiple

03:37:53.000 --> 03:37:57.000

hashtags to a post but you can search that hashtag

03:37:57.000 --> 03:38:01.000

and look for that hashtag and see all the different posts by

03:38:01.000 --> 03:38:06.000

anybody who used that specific hashtag. I think it's

03:38:06.000 --> 03:38:07.000

helpful to know how hashtags work if we're using them

03:38:07.000 --> 03:38:11.000

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03:38:11.000 --> 03:38:15.000

I really like advocacy day because typically we get to

03:38:15.000 --> 03:38:19.000

go talk to our legislators and pull them out of session, I think

03:38:19.000 --> 03:38:23.000

that's a great way. I'm new to the idea of connecting to

03:38:23.000 --> 03:38:29.000

legislators through social media. That just to me is a newer

03:38:29.000 --> 03:38:34.000

concept even though I'm on different social media platforms,

03:38:34.000 --> 03:38:37.000

talking to my representative that way is a new process.

03:38:37.000 --> 03:38:40.000

>> ALYSSA MILLER: Yeah. It's

03:38:40.000 --> 03:38:45.000

definitely a new thing to think about, especially how we can

03:38:45.000 --> 03:38:50.000

use the tools that we have while we're virtual. I know that's

03:38:50.000 --> 03:38:55.000

been a big thing for us at GCDD, trying to figure out how we can

03:38:55.000 --> 03:38:59.000

make sure folks are using whatever platforms they usually do,

03:38:59.000 --> 03:39:00.000

but being able to engage with their elected officials in that

03:39:00.000 --> 03:39:04.000

way.

03:39:04.000 --> 03:39:08.000

And like Mark mentioned at the end of him and Maria's

03:39:08.000 --> 03:39:14.000

presentation about social media, a perfect example of how he has

03:39:14.000 --> 03:39:19.000

used social media to make change. I think that was a really

03:39:19.000 --> 03:39:22.000

powerful example about helping someone make sure that they could

03:39:22.000 --> 03:39:24.000

exercise their right to vote and how quickly his representative

03:39:24.000 --> 03:39:27.000

responded.

03:39:27.000 --> 03:39:34.000

I will say just from my experience of using social

03:39:34.000 --> 03:39:38.000

media to reach out to elected officials is they're actually

03:39:38.000 --> 03:39:42.000

pretty responsive. I know we think about sometimes our federal

03:39:42.000 --> 03:39:49.000

representatives and senators, so in Georgia we have brand new

03:39:49.000 --> 03:39:53.000

senators at the federal level with senator Warnock and Ossoff

03:39:53.000 --> 03:39:57.000

and sometimes they get lots of mentions on social media so it

03:39:57.000 --> 03:39:57.000

might be less common that you get a response back

03:39:57.000 --> 03:40:02.000

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03:40:02.000 --> 03:40:06.000

I find our state and elected officials are pretty

03:40:06.000 --> 03:40:12.000

engaged with social media. I wouldn't be surprised if y'all

03:40:12.000 --> 03:40:23.000

tagged them. Tagging -- I'm not the greatest to explaining

03:40:23.000 --> 03:40:26.000

social media, but we tag someone, we use that little like @

03:40:26.000 --> 03:40:30.000

symbol, and you can find that information pretty easily, a lot

03:40:30.000 --> 03:40:30.000

of times via those pages that Mark and Maria shared

03:40:30.000 --> 03:40:33.000

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03:40:33.000 --> 03:40:36.000

But when you actually have a conversation with them at

03:40:36.000 --> 03:40:40.000

say Facebook or Twitter, especially Twitter because I think that

03:40:40.000 --> 03:40:42.000

happens more quickly, they are likely to respond.

03:40:42.000 --> 03:40:47.000

03:40:47.000 --> 03:40:51.000

So I had add it's also helpful to use, especially on

03:40:51.000 --> 03:40:53.000

Twitter because it helps things trend. So if we have a really

03:40:53.000 --> 03:40:58.000

big community response that we're all talking about the same

03:40:58.000 --> 03:41:01.000

thing on social media, using the same hashtag, it helps those

03:41:01.000 --> 03:41:07.000

platforms recognize that this is a really popular thing that's

03:41:07.000 --> 03:41:13.000

going on and whether transNAGSally, we would have lots of people

03:41:13.000 --> 03:41:18.000

but there are issues specific to Georgia as well. So that's

03:41:18.000 --> 03:41:20.000

also something to think about when we're thinking about and talk

03:41:20.000 --> 03:41:21.000
about what we're learning on social media

03:41:21.000 --> 03:41:25.000

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03:41:25.000 --> 03:41:29.000
I'm actually curious to know who uses particular tock.

03:41:29.000 --> 03:41:39.000
I think I'm just too old for that. That's one that I haven't

03:41:39.000 --> 03:41:40.000
like tried to figure out but I've heard cool things, seen cool

03:41:40.000 --> 03:41:51.000
videos.

03:41:51.000 --> 03:41:53.000
Does anyone else use particular tock in this group?

03:41:53.000 --> 03:41:56.000
>> That's a great question, I

03:41:56.000 --> 03:42:00.000
appreciate it. I'm curious beyond particular tock as

03:42:00.000 --> 03:42:05.000
well, or to build on that, what people use in terms of social

03:42:05.000 --> 03:42:08.000
media within this group. When you post things, does anyone post

03:42:08.000 --> 03:42:14.000
pictures of events or things they're doing on campus to

03:42:14.000 --> 03:42:17.000
social media?

03:42:17.000 --> 03:42:21.000
>> I think there was a yes and a no. Do you guys want

03:42:21.000 --> 03:42:24.000

to talk a little bit more?

03:42:24.000 --> 03:42:30.000

>> TERESA HEARD: I post things on Facebook and those

03:42:30.000 --> 03:42:33.000

kinds of things but my teenagers are the ones posting things on

03:42:33.000 --> 03:42:38.000

particular tock and making videos. Literally I made my first

03:42:38.000 --> 03:42:43.000

particular tock video when my son had to graduate virtually and

03:42:43.000 --> 03:42:44.000

I had to hold the camera to help him make the particular tock

03:42:44.000 --> 03:42:48.000

video. That was literally my first experience making a

03:42:48.000 --> 03:42:54.000

particular tock video out there.

03:42:54.000 --> 03:43:00.000

But my husband watches that. He loves particular

03:43:00.000 --> 03:43:08.000

tock. He watches it all the time. So that and Instagram. He

03:43:08.000 --> 03:43:10.000

gets a lot of stuff from Instagram.

03:43:10.000 --> 03:43:14.000

>> Yeah, we post --

03:43:14.000 --> 03:43:17.000

>> Jessica, were you going to say something?

03:43:17.000 --> 03:43:27.000

>> Yes, hi. I'm in another group on

03:43:27.000 --> 03:43:33.000

Facebook and recently, the group has gotten

03:43:33.000 --> 03:43:37.000

together with our representatives and it was really nice having that

03:43:37.000 --> 03:43:41.000

Facebook group because we all kind of got together in that group,

03:43:41.000 --> 03:43:47.000

then we were able to email each other and put it all together and

03:43:47.000 --> 03:43:52.000

we got to have a zoom meeting with him a few weeks ago. So

03:43:52.000 --> 03:43:52.000

that really, having Facebook facilitated that

03:43:52.000 --> 03:43:55.000

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03:43:55.000 --> 03:44:00.000

Also, it was nice that we could do it over zoom

03:44:00.000 --> 03:44:07.000

because while I can show up for a zoom meeting, I have problems

03:44:07.000 --> 03:44:15.000

with transportation so I probably couldn't get to Washington, so

03:44:15.000 --> 03:44:18.000

I think social media is really helpful in inclusion for people

03:44:18.000 --> 03:44:27.000

who have problems with transportation.

03:44:27.000 --> 03:44:29.000

>> Great. It sounds like a great way

03:44:29.000 --> 03:44:31.000

to connect, organize people with the same

03:44:31.000 --> 03:44:32.000

representative or people that you know. That's great

03:44:32.000 --> 03:44:36.000

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03:44:36.000 --> 03:44:44.000

Maria, did you say you use social media as well?

03:44:44.000 --> 03:44:46.000

>> Yes, I do. Can you see me? Can

03:44:46.000 --> 03:44:50.000

everyone see me and hear me?

03:44:50.000 --> 03:45:04.000

>> Yes, you're coming over clear.

03:45:04.000 --> 03:45:09.000

>> Yes, I'm a social media freak.

03:45:09.000 --> 03:45:17.000

Like I socially post to Facebook and so like the

03:45:17.000 --> 03:45:26.000

reason I post a lot is because I post for my family and friends, in

03:45:26.000 --> 03:45:40.000

my home town, I always post a lot about them, because I group up

03:45:40.000 --> 03:45:48.000

in Georgia for 22 years, post a lot, even I go here, social

03:45:48.000 --> 03:46:00.000

media program with Emily and so I always post a lot about like my

03:46:00.000 --> 03:46:06.000

friends here, like if I was to connect with them, like most of my

03:46:06.000 --> 03:46:36.000

friends use Snapchat, Instagram, and I'm making my own posts

03:54:29.000 --> 03:54:32.000

out groups to share a quick tip or generally what

03:54:32.000 --> 03:54:33.000

the conversation was around in your group

03:54:33.000 --> 03:54:37.000

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03:54:37.000 --> 03:54:40.000

So Mark, please feel free to share.

03:54:40.000 --> 03:54:48.000

>> MARK CRENSHAW: So good afternoon, and thank you

03:54:48.000 --> 03:54:56.000

for still being here. So I was with a group of folks that

03:54:56.000 --> 03:55:00.000

included some folks from IPSE programs, Julie from eagle academy

03:55:00.000 --> 03:55:08.000

and I had a great conversation in there but the main take away

03:55:08.000 --> 03:55:13.000

from I think the group that I was in was that this is all about

03:55:13.000 --> 03:55:17.000

building a relationship, right? So I think there's lots of

03:55:17.000 --> 03:55:22.000

conversations sometimes about how sort of nothing useful, you

03:55:22.000 --> 03:55:30.000

know, useful communication doesn't happen on social media and I

03:55:30.000 --> 03:55:36.000

think what we decided as a group in my small group was that, you

03:55:36.000 --> 03:55:40.000

know, that social media offers an opportunity to build a

03:55:40.000 --> 03:55:46.000

relationship and it's one tool among many, but, you know, if you

03:55:46.000 --> 03:55:51.000

reach out to your elected official on social media, then you can

03:55:51.000 --> 03:55:54.000

start a conversation and hopefully find many other ways to

03:55:54.000 --> 03:55:58.000

continue that conversation in the name of building a

03:55:58.000 --> 03:56:00.000

relationship that serves you well as an advocate for issues that

03:56:00.000 --> 03:56:05.000

you care about.

03:56:05.000 --> 03:56:10.000

The other thing that Charlie and I decided in the

03:56:10.000 --> 03:56:15.000

small group was that we are going to start Tweeting at political

03:56:15.000 --> 03:56:23.000

rewind which is Georgia public broadcasting radio show to

03:56:23.000 --> 03:56:30.000

encourage them to invite Eric Jacobson to be on there to talk

03:56:30.000 --> 03:56:34.000

about the issues, so the political rewind Twitter handle in the

03:56:34.000 --> 03:56:38.000

chat and you guys can join our quest.

03:56:38.000 --> 03:56:45.000

So I wanted to open this up to other folks who were in

03:56:45.000 --> 03:56:49.000

the breakout rooms, who helped facilitate these conversations,

03:56:49.000 --> 03:56:54.000

to see if I could, if we could, get a sense together of what

03:56:54.000 --> 03:57:00.000

takeaways there were from other conversations and thank you

03:57:00.000 --> 03:57:01.000

jewel LOO, Alyssa, and Maria for being facilitate Torres.

03:57:01.000 --> 03:57:07.000

>> ALYSSA MILLER: I can go. This is

03:57:07.000 --> 03:57:15.000

Alyssa. I can follow that up. We had a really great

03:57:15.000 --> 03:57:21.000

conversation in my group, there may have been three or four

03:57:21.000 --> 03:57:25.000

IPSE. A couple of take aways that we had: One, is that there's a

03:57:25.000 --> 03:57:29.000

lot of new language that's very specific to social media, like a

03:57:29.000 --> 03:57:34.000

lot of buzzwords that might be helpful for us to have

03:57:34.000 --> 03:57:40.000

definitions for and understand like how to use them and what they're

03:57:40.000 --> 03:57:45.000

for, so we were thinking things like hashtag, what is it, what

03:57:45.000 --> 03:57:51.000

does it do, handle, tagging. All of these things. We

03:57:51.000 --> 03:57:55.000

were sort of thinking about how it might be helpful to have some

03:57:55.000 --> 03:57:57.000

like a glossary, a social media glossary which I'm sure someone

03:57:57.000 --> 03:58:00.000

has created out there.

03:58:00.000 --> 03:58:04.000

Another thing we talked about, it was exciting to hear

03:58:04.000 --> 03:58:09.000

the IPSE students talk about how they are experts in social

03:58:09.000 --> 03:58:13.000

media, around Facebook, Instagram, and the things they like to

03:58:13.000 --> 03:58:17.000

share. One person uses particular tool a lot which is fun

03:58:17.000 --> 03:58:20.000

because I know that's the new big popular one that I have no

03:58:20.000 --> 03:58:23.000

idea anything about but it sounds cool.

03:58:23.000 --> 03:58:27.000

We're talking about how a lot of times

03:58:27.000 --> 03:58:30.000

the programs themselves, people use social media to

03:58:30.000 --> 03:58:33.000

keep the public informed about things that are happening on

03:58:33.000 --> 03:58:38.000

campus and the types of projects and things like that that

03:58:38.000 --> 03:58:41.000

students are doing, and how cool it might be if the program had

03:58:41.000 --> 03:58:45.000

their state representatives and state senators like handles and

03:58:45.000 --> 03:58:50.000

that sort of social media information and just make sure when

03:58:50.000 --> 03:58:54.000

they're tagging places like GCDD and other things, that they're

03:58:54.000 --> 03:58:59.000

also tagging their legislators so that the elected

03:58:59.000 --> 03:59:03.000

officials can stay in the know about the really awesome and very

03:59:03.000 --> 03:59:03.000

important work that comes out of the IPSE programs across Georgia

03:59:03.000 --> 03:59:09.000

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03:59:09.000 --> 03:59:13.000

I would say those are probably our key take aways, and

03:59:13.000 --> 03:59:16.000

I don't know if Maria or Julie would like to chime in with some

03:59:16.000 --> 03:59:18.000

additional info.

03:59:18.000 --> 03:59:23.000

>> MARIA PINKELTON: I can kind of give some

03:59:23.000 --> 03:59:29.000

highlights from our group. We had an amazingly energized group,

03:59:29.000 --> 03:59:33.000

already active group, on my breakout room, and some of them had

03:59:33.000 --> 03:59:36.000

some interesting questions about what if you have a relationship

03:59:36.000 --> 03:59:38.000

with that person outside of social media and you already know

03:59:38.000 --> 03:59:42.000

that person.

03:59:42.000 --> 03:59:47.000

One person on the call mentioned that his second grade

03:59:47.000 --> 03:59:50.000

teacher was married to the rep from his district. And I was

03:59:50.000 --> 03:59:54.000

like that's a great way to use that relationship. Teachers

03:59:54.000 --> 03:59:58.000

always want to know their babies have grown up and become these

03:59:58.000 --> 04:00:05.000

awesome adults, so you should try to use all the connections

04:00:05.000 --> 04:00:09.000

that you can with a hey, how are you doing, I am -- via social

04:00:09.000 --> 04:00:09.000

media, email, even if you're able to see them face to face

04:00:09.000 --> 04:00:13.000

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04:00:13.000 --> 04:00:20.000

We had a comment from Rachel Gomez who talked about

04:00:20.000 --> 04:00:24.000

how, you know, face to face on the ropes, it's crowded at the

04:00:24.000 --> 04:00:28.000

golden dome, at the gold dome, so we can take advantage of the

04:00:28.000 --> 04:00:31.000

time where we don't have 8 million other people clammering to

04:00:31.000 --> 04:00:32.000

see who that representative is or whoever that senator is

04:00:32.000 --> 04:00:36.000

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04:00:36.000 --> 04:00:40.000

So this is kind of opportunity for you to erase and

04:00:40.000 --> 04:00:44.000

rerecord, if you are sending a video message or type and retype

04:00:44.000 --> 04:00:50.000

and proofread that tweet before you send it to them so it's kind

04:00:50.000 --> 04:00:53.000

of a golden opportunity for you to get your foot wet in here in

04:00:53.000 --> 04:00:57.000

a kind of controlled environment where you don't have to worry

04:00:57.000 --> 04:00:59.000

about any nervousness that we all might have, or crowds around

04:00:59.000 --> 04:01:04.000

us.

04:01:04.000 --> 04:01:08.000

One of the people on the call named Mark Cole, star

04:01:08.000 --> 04:01:13.000

and I agree he needs to run for president, he says you need to

04:01:13.000 --> 04:01:17.000

have the urgency and the knowledge that this is important and

04:01:17.000 --> 04:01:21.000

work with the knowledge that that is important. And if you need

04:01:21.000 --> 04:01:26.000

assistance in meeting with your legislators, don't be afraid to

04:01:26.000 --> 04:01:30.000

ask for it. If you can convey the urgency to them that this

04:01:30.000 --> 04:01:33.000

policy is needed, these dollars are needed, these budgets are

04:01:33.000 --> 04:01:36.000

needed, that is the best way to make your voice heard and I

04:01:36.000 --> 04:01:37.000

think that was kind of the best wrap up

04:01:37.000 --> 04:01:40.000

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04:01:40.000 --> 04:01:45.000

Also the importance, when you are able to speak with

04:01:45.000 --> 04:01:51.000

your legislators online, everyone likes virtual selfies and post

04:01:51.000 --> 04:01:55.000

those and later on tag them in a post to use another opportunity

04:01:55.000 --> 04:01:55.000

to build a relationship with them across the digital world

04:01:55.000 --> 04:01:58.000

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04:01:58.000 --> 04:02:02.000

Do you have anything else, Julie?

04:02:02.000 --> 04:02:08.000

>> Yeah, I would say some great pointers from east

04:02:08.000 --> 04:02:13.000

Georgia state college, Susanna, she was saying last summer they

04:02:13.000 --> 04:02:17.000

did an outreach to promote the IPSE programs and talk to their

04:02:17.000 --> 04:02:22.000

representatives, and she said it was super helpful to, you know,

04:02:22.000 --> 04:02:26.000

not just talk but include images and pictures of the students

04:02:26.000 --> 04:02:31.000

and saying this is what we're asking for but this is directly

04:02:31.000 --> 04:02:32.000

who it impacts, you know? Which that was a really, really great

04:02:32.000 --> 04:02:37.000

point.

04:02:37.000 --> 04:02:43.000

And then Cyndi made the recommendation, too, that we,

04:02:43.000 --> 04:02:49.000

you know, including those personal narratives, not just asking

04:02:49.000 --> 04:02:54.000

broadly but saying like this is who it impacts or how it impacts

04:02:54.000 --> 04:02:59.000

me directly and so I thought that we had some great discussion.

04:02:59.000 --> 04:03:06.000

A lot of first timers to advocacy day and like you're saying,

04:03:06.000 --> 04:03:10.000

Maria, being able to use that, even though it feels different

04:03:10.000 --> 04:03:20.000

and we're not at the ropes and at the capital but be able to use

04:03:20.000 --> 04:03:22.000

that to our advantage and make those personal connections.

04:03:22.000 --> 04:03:22.000

>> Thank you all so much

04:03:22.000 --> 04:03:25.000

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04:03:25.000 --> 04:03:26.000

Mark, did you have any additional comments that you

04:03:26.000 --> 04:03:29.000

wanted to share?

04:03:29.000 --> 04:03:34.000

>> MARK CRENSHAW: No, I was just going to say it

04:03:34.000 --> 04:03:37.000

sounds like folks had great conversations and I appreciate IPSE

04:03:37.000 --> 04:03:41.000

students being actively participating in the conversation

04:03:41.000 --> 04:03:45.000

because I feel like we have so much we can learn from each other

04:03:45.000 --> 04:03:48.000

related to this, so I'm grateful that you guys took the time to

04:03:48.000 --> 04:03:52.000

be part of the conversation.

04:03:52.000 --> 04:03:56.000

>> And thank you so much to our leaders as well for

04:03:56.000 --> 04:04:00.000

helping facilitate those conversations and reporting back to the

04:04:00.000 --> 04:04:08.000

group. It's always time well spent that everyone can hear from

04:04:08.000 --> 04:04:12.000

the knowledge of the entire group, and we do still have 63 folks

04:04:12.000 --> 04:04:15.000

on the call. Thank you, everyone, for hanging in and

04:04:15.000 --> 04:04:16.000

participating in this awesome advocacy day

04:04:16.000 --> 04:04:19.000

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04:04:19.000 --> 04:04:26.000

We're going to take a short, five-minute break, so

04:04:26.000 --> 04:04:32.000

we'll be back around 1:52. If you need to grab a drink or use

04:04:32.000 --> 04:05:00.000

the restroom.

04:05:00.000 --> 04:05:30.000

This next video we're going to share is an eagle nest

04:07:06.000 --> 04:07:07.000

in Mount berry , Georgia. See you at 1:52.

04:07:07.000 --> 04:07:37.000

04:10:13.000 --> 04:10:16.000

(Recess.)

04:10:16.000 --> 04:10:22.000

>> All right, everyone, I'm going to welcome you back

04:10:22.000 --> 04:10:27.000

from the break. If you can make your way back to your computer.

04:10:27.000 --> 04:10:30.000

We have a great session building on Mark and Maria's social

04:10:30.000 --> 04:10:30.000

media presentation and that, we'll do shortly

04:10:30.000 --> 04:10:33.000

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04:10:33.000 --> 04:10:37.000

Before we do that and as folks return to their

04:10:37.000 --> 04:10:48.000

computers, we are going to draw the next raffle so this raffle

04:10:48.000 --> 04:10:50.000

is called at home fun and fidget kit for those maybe feeling a

04:10:50.000 --> 04:10:57.000

little bored at home. So this raffle includes a tabletop

04:10:57.000 --> 04:10:59.000

foosball game, animal balance game and egg shaker so you can

04:10:59.000 --> 04:11:05.000

keep your hands busy.

04:11:05.000 --> 04:11:08.000

And the winner of this raffle is Jessica Powell.

04:11:08.000 --> 04:11:11.000

Congratulations, Jessica. We'll be sending this in the mail to

04:11:11.000 --> 04:11:14.000

you shortly. So keep an eye out for that. Thank you for

04:11:14.000 --> 04:11:20.000

joining us, Jessica.

04:11:20.000 --> 04:11:25.000

And now I am pleased to introduce Charlie Miller, who

04:11:25.000 --> 04:11:29.000

is our MC for this morning who started us off with that great

04:11:29.000 --> 04:11:35.000

cheer session. He is also the legislative advocacy director at

04:11:35.000 --> 04:11:39.000

GCDD as well as Naomi Williams, a public policy fellow at the

04:11:39.000 --> 04:11:41.000

Georgia counsel on developmental disabilities and similar to the

04:11:41.000 --> 04:11:47.000

last session, directly following this session, we will break

04:11:47.000 --> 04:11:51.000

into small groups and have discussions for 25 to 30 minutes and

04:11:51.000 --> 04:11:53.000

similar to what we just did, reconvene in the large group to

04:11:53.000 --> 04:11:53.000

share quick take aways from the group leaders

04:11:53.000 --> 04:12:14.000

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04:12:14.000 --> 04:12:16.000

And now, we will hear from Charlie and Naomi.

04:12:16.000 --> 04:12:19.000

>> CHARLIE MILLER: Hello, advocates.

04:12:19.000 --> 04:12:24.000

How in the world are you doing today? My name is

04:12:24.000 --> 04:12:25.000

Charlie Miller and I'm so excited to be presenting with my

04:12:25.000 --> 04:12:28.000

co-host.

04:12:28.000 --> 04:12:30.000

>> NAOMI WILLIAMS: Naomi Williams. Hi, everyone.

04:12:30.000 --> 04:12:35.000

>> CHARLIE MILLER: Today we're going

04:12:35.000 --> 04:12:40.000

to be going over letter and email writing in our

04:12:40.000 --> 04:12:42.000

advocacy workshop today. So let's get started.

04:12:42.000 --> 04:12:43.000

>> NAOMI WILLIAMS: Let's get started,

04:12:43.000 --> 04:12:46.000

Charlie.

04:12:46.000 --> 04:12:50.000

Why is writing your legislator important? When you

04:12:50.000 --> 04:12:54.000

write your legislator, you're letting them know what issues are

04:12:54.000 --> 04:12:56.000

important to their communities and districts. What's important

04:12:56.000 --> 04:12:56.000

to you? You want them to hear your voice

04:12:56.000 --> 04:13:00.000

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04:13:00.000 --> 04:13:03.000

Your legislator goes through a lot of issues and hear

04:13:03.000 --> 04:13:13.000

a lot of different topics during the legislative session. That

04:13:13.000 --> 04:13:16.000

is a mouthful. And so sometimes it's on us to educate our

04:13:16.000 --> 04:13:17.000

legislators on the issues that are important and that matter to

04:13:17.000 --> 04:13:21.000

us.

04:13:21.000 --> 04:13:24.000

We also have to remember that this is a part-time job

04:13:24.000 --> 04:13:28.000

for them so what's important to us may not be important to them

04:13:28.000 --> 04:13:32.000

or they may not even have known about it because this isn't

04:13:32.000 --> 04:13:36.000

their full-time job. So they are actually relying on us, their

04:13:36.000 --> 04:13:38.000

constituents or community members, to let them know what's

04:13:38.000 --> 04:13:40.000

important to those they represent.

04:13:40.000 --> 04:13:43.000

Charlie.

04:13:43.000 --> 04:13:50.000

>> CHARLIE MILLER: Thank you, Naomi. So I am so

04:13:50.000 --> 04:13:57.000

excited that Naomi was able to speak a little bit about what is

04:13:57.000 --> 04:14:02.000

important and why it is important to write to your legislator.

04:14:02.000 --> 04:14:06.000

So you were excited to write to your legislator but make sure

04:14:06.000 --> 04:14:11.000

you know who you should write to. We have broken it down to

04:14:11.000 --> 04:14:14.000

some easy steps for us and the first step is to make sure we

04:14:14.000 --> 04:14:19.000

know who our legislator is.

04:14:19.000 --> 04:14:26.000

So if you go onto the internet and you go to

04:14:26.000 --> 04:14:29.000

openstates dot org, you'll be able to find the web page that is

04:14:29.000 --> 04:14:36.000

pretty user friendly and you can click on find your legislator

04:14:36.000 --> 04:14:40.000

and that will pop up a type in your address. So once you're

04:14:40.000 --> 04:14:49.000

able to find who your legislators are, we need to make sure that

04:14:49.000 --> 04:14:59.000

you know who both of your state legislators are in the Senate

04:14:59.000 --> 04:15:02.000

and house. And also, if you're writing a letter, to make sure

04:15:02.000 --> 04:15:03.000

that you use their legislative office address

04:15:03.000 --> 04:15:07.000

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04:15:07.000 --> 04:15:11.000

There's often two different addresses, one will be the

04:15:11.000 --> 04:15:12.000

campaign office and the other one will be the legislative

04:15:12.000 --> 04:15:14.000

office.

04:15:14.000 --> 04:15:16.000

Naomi.

04:15:16.000 --> 04:15:19.000

>> NAOMI WILLIAMS: All right. Thank you for that,

04:15:19.000 --> 04:15:25.000

Charlie. Thanks for letting us know where we find our ledges

04:15:25.000 --> 04:15:30.000

Torres and how to get to them: Our next step is how do we write

04:15:30.000 --> 04:15:31.000

our emails and letters. We want to be impactful but we want it

04:15:31.000 --> 04:15:37.000

to be short and sweet.

04:15:37.000 --> 04:15:44.000

I like to think of it as kiss, keep it short and

04:15:44.000 --> 04:15:44.000

sweet. K I S S. We have four simple steps to keep it short and

04:15:44.000 --> 04:15:49.000

sweet.

04:15:49.000 --> 04:15:53.000

The first one is we're going to introduce ourselves,

04:15:53.000 --> 04:15:57.000

letting our legislator know that you are a member or constituent

04:15:57.000 --> 04:16:02.000

in their communities. They are representing you. So who are

04:16:02.000 --> 04:16:06.000

you? Letting them know where you live and that you are excited

04:16:06.000 --> 04:16:08.000

that you voted -- you may not have voted -- for them but they

04:16:08.000 --> 04:16:11.000

are representing you.

04:16:11.000 --> 04:16:13.000

Charlie's going to go over the next one.

04:16:13.000 --> 04:16:16.000

>> CHARLIE MILLER: Yes. So after you

04:16:16.000 --> 04:16:23.000

introduce yourself, we must be able to list

04:16:23.000 --> 04:16:28.000

these issues that are affecting our community. So we need

04:16:28.000 --> 04:16:39.000

to tell them what issues we are writing them about and some

04:16:39.000 --> 04:16:46.000

examples of possible issues affecting our community, could be

04:16:46.000 --> 04:16:53.000

anything from Medicaid, housing, employment, education, COVID

04:16:53.000 --> 04:16:53.000

04:16:53.000 --> 04:16:55.000

19 and also voting. I'll pass it back to Naomi for step No. 3.

04:16:55.000 --> 04:16:59.000

>> NAOMI WILLIAMS: All right. Thanks, Charlie. So

04:16:59.000 --> 04:17:06.000

we've introduced ourselves, we've listed the issues that concern

04:17:06.000 --> 04:17:09.000

us. Then we want to say why does it matter to me? Why is it

04:17:09.000 --> 04:17:15.000

important to you that they pay attention to these issues that

04:17:15.000 --> 04:17:19.000

you've listed? So whether you're talking about inclusive post

04:17:19.000 --> 04:17:24.000

secondary education, whether you're talking about Medicaid

04:17:24.000 --> 04:17:28.000

waivers as Charlie mentioned, employment for those with

04:17:28.000 --> 04:17:32.000

disabilities, whatever it is, you want to say why it's important

04:17:32.000 --> 04:17:35.000

to you. Because remember, they're representing you

04:17:35.000 --> 04:17:36.000

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04:17:36.000 --> 04:17:41.000

Charlie?

04:17:41.000 --> 04:17:45.000

>> CHARLIE MILLER: Yes. So we have three great steps

04:17:45.000 --> 04:17:49.000

about writing your legislator or emailing your legislator, but

04:17:49.000 --> 04:18:01.000

we also need to make sure that one of the most important steps

04:18:01.000 --> 04:18:05.000

is taken care of and that is to make the ask and say thank you.

04:18:05.000 --> 04:18:09.000

These legislators are only doing this part-time and they go

04:18:09.000 --> 04:18:16.000

through a lot of different bills and a lot of different issues

04:18:16.000 --> 04:18:20.000

during these 40 days as a legislative session. So we've always

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got to make sure that we thank them for considering our request

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Now, Naomi is going to be able to go over the

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template.

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Naomi.

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>> NAOMI WILLIAMS: Thanks, Charlie. So we have those

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four steps that Charlie and I talked about. So in the template,

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it's putting what we just talked about and putting it actually

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in writing. So we take the hard part away and all you have to

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do is plug in really your information into this template. So

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remember we talked about keep it simple and short, or keep it

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short and simple.

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So you're going to put in your legislator's name, so

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you have your person that represents the Senate and the other

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who represents the house. You're going to introduce yourself,

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what is your name, where do you live.

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Then talking about the issue that is

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important to you. Now, don't give them that full laundry

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list of everything that is bothering you or important to you

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right then. Let's stick to one, two at the most, issues that's

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important to you and talk about why it matters

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And then you're asking for their support. Again,

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remember, they are representing you. You're asking them for

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their support and at the very end, as Charlie mentioned before,

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we're going to thank them for the work that they're doing and

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for considering supporting you in this effort

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04:19:54.000 --> 04:19:57.000
>> CHARLIE MILLER: Awesome. So now, guys, we have

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some really good tips that you are able to get and some really

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good ideas about what we can do when we're emailing and writing

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to our legislators but we also want to show you some quick tips

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and tricks once you've reached out and to help you along with

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building a strong relationship with your legislator

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So one of the main points that kind of really sticks

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out to me is if you come to a point and the legislator asks you

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a question that you may not know the answer to you, y'all, it is

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okay. No one is expected to know every single thing about every

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little thing. So it's okay to say I don't know, but we also

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need to make sure that when you do say I don't know, you tell

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them, yes, you may not know the answer now, but you'll be happy

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to find out that answer.

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So we always make sure that they understand that we

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are going to be as truthful as possible and we're going to make

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sure that they know, if we don't have the answer, we are willing

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to figure it out and help them find that answer

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One of the other things I have realized in talking

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with legislators is as my dad would say, when you have friends,

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you got to make sure you go visit them even when you don't need

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something. So y'all, reach out and check in with them every now

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and then. They love to hear good news about things that are

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working within the state. They sure do know a lot about the bad

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news, that things that aren't working in the state so every now

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and then it's good to give them some good news to think about

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04:21:55.000 --> 04:22:02.000

And then, y'all, once you have developed your

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relationship with your legislator, please use the Georgia

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council of developmental disabilities as a resource to back you

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up with policy information. We are more than happy to work with

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you to find any of these answers and help support you and make

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sure we're able to advocate together.

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So, folks, in closing, and this is really close to my

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heart, especially being an inclusive post secondary graduate

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myself, we have to reach out to our legislators and we have to

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make sure they understand how important it is for inclusive

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post secondary education in the state of Georgia.

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So y'all, that's about it for us. I'm Charlie Miller.

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Williams.

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>> NAOMI WILLIAMS: I'm Naomi

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>> CHARLIE MILLER: And thank you so much for

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advocating with us. Happy advocating.

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>> NAOMI WILLIAMS: Have a great day.

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>> Thank you so much, Charlie and Naomi. And again,

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we will now split into small breakout groups again. If you

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prefer being in group 1 that has ASL and CART, please send us a

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message in a chat, if you're not already in there and we can

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place you in there.

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We will do about 25 minutes of discussion for letter

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>> Okay. Well, welcome back, everyone. We have 35

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folks back in the main meeting and again, we are going to have

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our group leaders go through and talk about kind of high level

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takeaways from your group. We'll start with Charlie Miller.

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Charlie?

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>> CHARLIE MILLER: I always forget to unmute myself

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So I was very excited to be in the group with a lot of

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really cool people, honestly. And we really talked about

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everything from, you know, folks, how they started their

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friendships and relationships with their legislator and we also

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talked about, after you started that friendship and you started

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reaching out, we need to make sure that we keep them informed

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about all of what's going on in our lives in inclusive post

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secondary or wherever we may be.

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And I did, I gave my group some homework and I asked

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them all, because they were all telling me, telling us, about

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how they've -- how much they've thrived at inclusive post

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secondary. I asked them all to email their legislator and have

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-- and make sure that you also tell the legislator about how

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important it is to have inclusive post secondary in the state of

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Georgia.

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And I think I am able to pass the mic and I want to

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pass it over to Julie.

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>> All right. Yeah. It was definitely, I loved the

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conversation. We had some people from the University of Georgia

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joining us and they mentioned that their students create

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business cards and they talked about including those business