Increasing Engagement with Self Advocates in P&A Work

> Teresa Moore Ian Watlington





#### Polls Question 1 Who is in the session?



Are you a P&A staff?

Are you a person with a disability?

Are you a family member?

Are you a personal assistant?

## Roots of the self advocacy movement

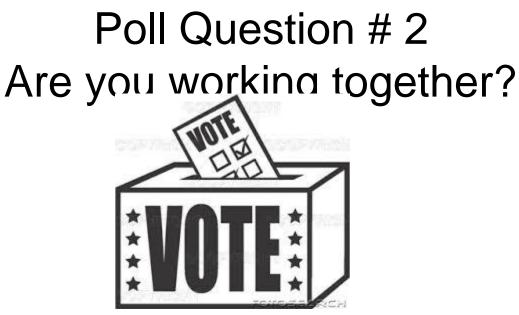
- Doctors supported institution option
- System supported guardianship
- History of being used or abused
- History of being picked on

## Self Advocacy Then to Now

- Desire for their voice to be heard
- Desire for more control of their life
- Desire for real work and real pay
- Desire to be seen as equal and to be respected

## Self advocacy as community building

- Groups started to form
- Gave each other support to tell their story
- People wanted to support the members of the group
- Ask how we can make it better for each other?
- Supporters needed to teach each other how to be an ally



P&As are you currently working with self advocates or a self advocacy organization?

Self advocates are you currently working with a P&A?

Yes, we have in the past. Our project was

Yes, Our project is \_\_\_\_\_

## Self advocacy and the P&As

- Self advocates want everyone to be able to people up for their rights.
- We have many talents the P&A can use
- We help each other be better teachers

# Time and energy leads to a relationship with a bigger pay off

# Hire Us

- Our stories have power
- New P&A Clients may be afraid
- Staff with disabilities can help clients build trust with the P&A
- We often are well connected to other organizations and people



### More Self Advocacy Information

- Self Advocates Becoming Empowered (SABE)
   <u>https://sabeusa.org</u>
- SABE GoVoter Project
  <u>https://sabeusa.org/govote</u>
- SARTAC (Self Advocacy Resource Technical Assistance Center) <u>https://selfadvocacyinfo.org/</u>
- Teresa Moore

mooreadvocacy@hotmail.com



Self Advocacy and Beyond

#### More P&A Information

Ian Watlington
 <u>Ian.Watlington@ndrn.org</u>



#### Final thoughts...

#### Thank you!