



Learning and Reflection Forum Series
How we are leading: Voices from Leadership Academy Alumni
March 14, 2019 2:00 - 3:30 pm EST

Presenter Bios

Angela Castillo Epps



Angela joined NACDD in October 2014. As a Technical Assistance Specialist, she is responsible for providing information and technical assistance to improve program performance, statutory compliance and program outcomes across the network of State DD Councils. Previously, Angela spent 8 years with the Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council (MDDC) as the Director of Communications/Policy Specialist. Before MDDC, Angela worked as a Community Employment Associate and Project ACT Teacher/Trainer with Abilities Network, a forward thinking service provider in Towson Maryland. Angela graduated from Towson University with a B.S. in Psychology and a M.A. in Professional Studies with a concentration in Communications and Leadership.

Dori Tempio



Dori is the Director of Community Outreach & Consumer Rights at Able SC. Her passion for helping consumers with disabilities understand their rights, promoting independent living for all, and making connections leads her and her service dog sidekick, Shack, on exciting journeys. Each year, Dori trains hundreds of individuals all over the state, including people with disabilities, community businesses, organizations, service providers, and federal as well as state agencies. Her networking allows her to gather resources, materials, and information, enhancing her oversight of Able SC's Information and Referral Services.

Dori also serves on the SC Disabilities Voting Coalition, SC Emergency Planning Committee for People with Functional Needs, and the Person-Centered Planning Workgroup. Dori implements Community Leadership Academy to empower individuals with disabilities to become leaders in their communities by serving on boards, committees, and commissions. In 2017, she served as a Faculty Member of the Georgetown University Diversity Leadership Academy for Networks Supporting Leadership and Increasing Cultural Diversity for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, and she has been instrumental in the development and implementation of several national pilot curricula for individuals with disabilities.

Dave Verban



Dave is an advocate, a teacher, and an ally, who is passionate about community, equity, inclusion, and access. He is currently TMG's Senior Learning and Development Consultant, where he works to ensure the principles of self-determination and person-centered thinking are infused throughout the organization. He is also the Limited English Proficiency Coordinator and a member of TMG's Civil Rights Compliance team. He chairs TMG's Cultural Competence Committee, a standing Committee charged with driving the organization toward Cultural and Linguistic Competence. In over 20 years at TMG Dave has filled a variety of roles, always working to support TMG's mission by amplifying the voices of people with disabilities, older adults, and their families. Prior to joining TMG, Dave worked in supported employment, and as an advocate for children and adults with disabilities and their families. In addition to his work with TMG, Dave also holds a part-time teaching position with the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health.

Ian Watlington



Ian is a Disability Advocacy Specialist at the National Disabilities Rights Network (NDRN). Ian He joined NDRN in November of 2011. Ian assists the P&As in understanding their role in supporting and growing the advocacy skills of their clients and callers. He works with the Training and Technical Assistance team at NDRN in designing and delivery of trainings, education and outreach. Ian is from Denver, CO where he began his professional advocacy career doing work around special education issues and policy. He became interested in the work of NDRN while serving on the Board of Directors of his local P&A (Disability Law Colorado). He holds a B.A. in Sociology and a minor in Political Science from Guilford College in Greensboro, NC.