



CALL FOR PROVIDER PRESENTATION PROPOSALS

Pennsylvania Autism (Virtual) Training Conference

Conference Dates: October 5 - 7, 2021

Integrating Lived Experience: Stories from Professionals for Motivation and Growth

Among the most successful parts of last year's PATC were the personal stories from self-advocates and the talks from providers. This year we want to do something a little different and combine the formats into this year's call for proposals from providers. The Office of Developmental Programs (ODP) is requesting proposals that focus on the lived experience of professionals who provide support for individuals with autism.

As a provider, you probably experienced many challenges and adversity in the past months, both related and unrelated to the COVID-19 pandemic. How can we take the hardships, learn from them, and integrate that knowledge as we move into the future?

During PATC 2021, we will be highlighting the concept of post-traumatic growth, that from difficult experiences comes opportunity and the chance for progress. We want to give you the opportunity to share your experience, your stories of ordeals and difficulties, and of recovery and resilience.

- ❖ **Proposal Due Date: August 6, 2021**
- ❖ **Format: 15 Minute Story**
 - Slide Outline
 - 1 title slide
 - 1 problem/challenge slide (what's the issue?)
 - 3 (max) action slides (what'd you do/try?)
 - 1 implication slide (what's the impact?)
 - 1 next steps slide (how will you move forward?)
- ❖ Topics that will be included at PATCIntegrate2021 are employment before, during, and after the pandemic; integrating the justice and disability systems; diversity and inclusion; and more.
- ❖ **Suggestions/Prompts**
 - What was the challenge/adversity that you experienced and what lessons did you learn that you would integrate into your practices moving forward?
 - What have you learned that changes the way that you support individuals?
 - What are you going to keep, what are you going to change, what will you get rid of?
 - What was your most challenging moment in your role?
 - How have you stayed mission/vision-focused despite challenge and adversity? This could be your agency's mission, funder's mission, or your own personal vision.
- ❖ **Submit your presentation proposal at this link:** <https://www.questionpro.com/t/AJrvGZnc8R>
- ❖ **For further information, watch this brief video:** <https://paautism.wistia.com/medias/8pwd2i8yuw>

Proposals will be reviewed and selected by a committee designated by ODP. We are grateful to presenters who volunteer to share their expertise and experiences with their colleagues. Thank you for your interest, time, and effort!