

## CAP IDD Meeting Minutes – 2/10/2023

Present: Denise Cavanaugh, Karen Jacobsen, Courtney Walker, Jen Dayton, along with several organizations participating via TEAMS.

Special Guest: Betsy Farmer, Dean, University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work

1. Betsy Farmer joined us for a discussion on how we might be able to join forces to address the workforce crisis.
  - We started the discussion by framing the problem, and participants shared stories/examples of challenges we are facing.
  - Karen Jacobsen gave an overview of the problem as a national issue that has been growing steadily over the years, and how the issue is not so much a crisis as it is a systemic failure.
  - Betsy agreed to return for further discussion and will attend our April meeting. In the meantime, we came up with the following as potential areas of collaboration:
    - Increasing visibility of the industry, and the specific needs of individuals with IDD
    - Creating a pipeline by offering job opportunities and internships opportunities for students. PITT Serves is a possible avenue for securing volunteers for specific projects.
    - Using the resources of the University to get an audience with "big players" at the local and state levels, including government officials, Gov. Shapiro, legislators, representatives from other universities...etc., and of course having families at the table.
  - Another resource potentially available through Pitt is Changemakers Studio, which can be used by students for videos aimed at making a social impact. Betsy is going to connect Denise with a faculty member discuss their bandwidth is for taking on new projects right now, and in the future.
2. March Meeting
  - a. Meeting is tentatively scheduled for 3/10/23; Denise will be out of town and Karen Jacobsen will facilitate the meeting.
  - b. Consideration being given to going fully "in person" for remaining meetings.