**SLIDE 1:**

**Alt text: Conference Logo: Black sans serif text says, “BACK TO THE FUTURE”. To the right, digital font in bright, bold orange says, “2024”. Underneath, [NCIL Logo: National Council on Independent Living] Annual Conference on Independent Living.**

**2024 Annual Conference on Independent Living**

**BACK TO THE FUTURE**

**Presented by the National Council on Independent Living**

**SLIDE 2:**

**HOW TO BUILD A SUCCESSFUL YOUTH PROGRAM**

**July 23rd, 2024**

**Leah Velasco and Mayra Colazo**

**SLIDE 3:**

**Background of Youth Transition Program**

**Center for Independence (CFI)**

**Central Washington Disability Resources (CWDR)**

**SLIDE 4: Program Development**

**Building from the ground up**

**Youth led/disability peer led is ideal**

**Curriculum https://www.cctstfolio.com/#/**

**Identify potential community partners**

**CFI's program**

**CWDR's program**

**SLIDE 5: Outreach**

**Marketing materials**

**Building relationships in the community**

**Building connections with the schools**

**Reaching underserved populations**

**Reaching people with different disabilities**

**SLIDE 6: Engagement**

**Building relationships with youth**

**Seeking input from participants**

**Creating a welcoming and safe space**

**Creating leadership opportunities**

**Youth activities and icebreakers**

**SLIDE 7: Emphasizing IL Philosophy**

**Self-determination**

**Participant driven**

**Empowerment- self-advocacy**

**Informing youth to make their own decisions**

**Peer model**

**Sign Consent/Release of Information**

**SLIDE 8: Outcomes**

**Success stories**

**Testimonial:**

**Zoey Majors (They/Them), current Board Chair for Central Washington Disability Resources, former youth participant**

**SLIDE 9: Collaboration**

**Collaborating with other CILs in your state**

**Utilizing resources for support**

**Collaborating with other organizations**

**SLIDE 10: Staff Training**

**DEIA training**

**Youth Conferences**

**De-escalation training**

**Mental Health training**

**SLIDE 11: Funding and Increasing Capacity**

**ACL, Part B or C**

**Foundation grants**

**Fee-for-service**

**Division of Vocational Rehabilitation IL services**

**Pre-Employment Transition Services**

**SLIDE 12: How are you serving youth?**

**What has been successful?**

**What challenges have come up?**

**What are your visions for a youth program?**

**SLIDE 13: Questions??**

**Image Description:**

**A group of youth with visible and invisible disabilities posing for a photo in front of the University of Washington fountain.**

**SLIDE 14: Contact Information**

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