

>> SLIDE 1

**BACK TO THE
FUTURE** 2024

 **NCIL 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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