**SLIDE 1:**

**2024 Annual Conference on Independent Living**

**BACK TO THE FUTURE**

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

**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.**

**SLIDE 2:**

**Engaging the Youth to Unleash the Power of Storytelling in Self-Advocacy**

**Date:7/22/2024**

**Monday, July 22 2:30 PM - 3:45 PM**

**Sefakor Komabu-Pomeyie (Ph.D.)**

**Alt text: at the bottom corners of all following slides, there is the VCIL (Vermont Center for Independent Living) logo and the conference logo.**

**SLIDE 3:**

**Introduction**

**Introduction & Icebreaker**

**Discussing the stone in Schools & Communities**

**Decoding the Lion Proverb**

**Ubuntu/ UDL, and other Frameworks**

**Importance of Self-Advocacy**

**Sharing our stories**

**Final Tips & Takeaways**

**Questions**

**SLIDE 4:**

**Do you believe in this?**

**A stone with**

**an inscription:**

**Behind every person**

**is a story that gave**

**Them no choice.**

**Alt text: an image of a stone with the words "behind every strong person is a story that gave them no choice".**

**SLIDE 5:**

**What does this mean to you?**

**Alt text: a quote "until the lion learns how to write, every story will glorify the hunter." - african proverb**

**SLIDE 6:**

**The Power of Story Telling**

**What Strategies or practices have you found most effective in promoting self care?**

**How important is Self- Advocacy in story telling?**

**How can storytelling be used as an effective advocacy tool to promote the rights and inclusion of children with disabilities**

**SLIDE 7:**

**The Power of Self-Advocacy**

**It helps you hold your community leaders & policy makers accountable**

**It gives you self- awareness & Resilience skills**

**It builds you to accept and own your disability to develop Disability Pride**

**It empowers you to know your rights and the laws very well**

**It gives one confidence to ask for the tools you need to be successful in the real world.**

**SLIDE 8:**

**Ubuntu Framework**

**The Power of Africa Proverb**

**Group Work with Ubuntu sign in**

**Yellow circle.**

**Alt text: Ubuntu Logo**

**SLIDE 9:**

**My Story**

**A book cover, with the title:**

**I’M ABLE: A Woman’s Advice to**

**Disability Change Agents:**

**Alt text: A book cover with the title: I'm Able: A woman's advice to disability change agents.**

**SLIDE 10:**

**Universal Design for Learning**

**Alt text: A diagram of a learning process**

**SLIDE 11:**

**Working with the Hope Tree**

**Reflect on what you might include in a personal pledge to create and promote self-advocacy and story telling in your personal or professional life/setting.**

**Alt text: a green plant.**

**SLIDE 12:**

**Final Tips and Takeaways**

**What is your takeaway from this discussion?**

**Any hope?**

**Alt text: a green plant**

**SLIDE 13:**

**Contact**

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**SLIDE 14:**

**Questions?**

**Alt text: yellow and blue symbols**

**SLIDE 15:**

**Reference**

**King, R. U., Kamuzinzi, M., & Gasibirige, S. (2022). Healing life wounds: Restoring communities after mass violence. Tyndale Academic Press, Canada.**

**Levey, S. (2023). Universal design for learning. Journal of Education, 203(2), 479-487.**

**McCoy, R. T., Joseph, R., & Bongar, B. (2023). Americans with Disabilities Act. In Encyclopedia of Domestic Violence (pp. 1-15). Cham: Springer International Publishing.**