

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS: SESSION 1



"it's all about
partnerships and
it's all about
relationships"

"A lot of people who may see a person with a disability who doesn't have, who may have higher needs or more significant disabilities and **automatically assume** that they don't have the expectation that that person is gonna be able to have competitive employment."

**What do these
quotes mean to
you?**

**What employment
barriers and
solutions come
from these
quotes?**

"I'm big on employ the ability, not the disability...we can all sit here and identify our weaknesses, but really taking the time to **identify strengths** and what they can offer."



Connecting Theme: Education

"I wonder if there's something that we can do to help promote understanding that *everyone should be able to work* if they so choose."

FOR WHO?

- Employers
- Educators and Providers
- Youth and their families

HOW?

- Sharing narratives
- Mentorship
 - Peer Mentorship
 - Employer Mentorship
- Utilizing technology
 - Social Media
- Community partnerships

WHY?

To change attitudes and mindsets

- Raising expectations
- Promote asset-based thinking
- Raising employment standards
- Overcome fear and bias