

# TOGETHER WE CAN CONFERENCE 2025

A STATEWIDE CONFERENCE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES, THEIR FAMILIES, AND THE PROFESSIONALS WHO SUPPORT THEM.

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER: DR. BARBARA GUY

Dr. Barbara Guy is recently retired from the Iowa Department of Education where she served in multiple capacities over 27 years, including Division Administrator, State Director of Special Education and Transition Consultant. She received her Ph.D. in special education from the University of Kansas and was in the first cohort of special education teachers after the passage of 94-142 – the law that became what we now call the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). She is the oldest sibling of a sister with Down Syndrome.

## CONFERENCE AGENDA

8:15 am - 4:00 pm

### EXHIBITORS LOCATED THROUGH DOORS BEHIND MAIN LOBBY

See the Exhibitor Raffle form in your conference packet and find out how you can enter to win from over \$2,000 in prizes!

### QUIET ROOM LOCATED NEAR THE CHILDCARE AREA

See the Registration Desk Attendant for access to the Quiet Room.

### T-SHIRT SALES LOCATED BEHIND REGISTRATION DESK

100% of proceeds support future TWC Events.

8:15 am - 9:00 am

Lobby

### REGISTRATION/CHECK-IN & CHILDCARE DROP-OFF

Sign in and pick up your conference packet and name badge. Early entry will not be permitted except for those utilizing childcare. Those registered for childcare are allowed to enter the childcare area only at 8am to check child(ren) in.

9:00 am - 9:15 am

Upper  
Level

### OPENING REMARKS & KEYNOTE INTRODUCTION

9:15 am - 10:15 am

### MORNING KEYNOTE

**More than Enough**  
*Dr. Barbara Guy*

Join Dr. Barbara Guy as she shares personal tenets learned through her journey as the sibling of a person with a disability and her experience as an education/special education professional. Barb will share relevant and helpful insights for setting and realizing high expectations for living, learning and working in community, including successful and not-so-successful strategies.

10:15 am - 10:45 am

CONFERENCE BREAK

**ROOM  
A-1  
YOUTH  
AND  
YOUNG  
ADULT  
LEADERS**
**The Top 10 Things Every New Leader Should Know About Section 504 and the ADA.**

*Catherine Johnson, B.B.A., M.H.Ed., J.D.; Executive Director, Disability Rights Iowa*

Join Catherine for a helpful session about the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. These laws play a key role in ensuring access and fairness for people with disabilities. Youth leaders will learn about the events that led to the creation of the ADA and Section 504 and the advocacy efforts involved. Catherine will cover the main parts of the laws and how they continue to help people with disabilities in areas like jobs, public services, and accommodations. This session aims to raise awareness and deepen your understanding of why the ADA and Section 504 matter. You will leave with the knowledge to help create a more accessible world for everyone.

**ROOM A-2  
POST-  
SECONDARY  
TRANSITION**
**How to Keep a Job Coach – The Parent Edition**

*Haris Kovacevic, L.M.S.W.; Employment Consultant, Easterseals Iowa*

Join Haris for an engaging session exploring the partnership between Easter Seals and Athene in developing the Athene@Work program, which supports individuals with disabilities in the workforce. Attendees will learn about the essential role of job coaches in achieving successful employment outcomes and gain practical tips for partnering effectively with them. This session will provide tools to create inclusive employment opportunities and drive positive change. Don't miss out!

**ROOM B  
EDUCATION**
**Everything you Ever Wanted to Know About ACHIEVE**

*Shannon Grundmeier, M.Ed., Education Program Consultant, ACHIEVE Iowa Department of Education; Nancy Hunt, MPA, Outreach Consultant Iowa Department of Education; Lisa Lohman Management Analyst 3, ACHIEVE Iowa Department of Education*

ACHIEVE is the data management system used in Iowa that helps create and keep track of your child's Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) from birth to age three and/or the Individualized Education Program (IEP). With the online ACHIEVE Family Portal, you can easily access your child's IFSP/IEP and related documents anytime, anywhere, using any device. Shannon will share some tips on how to make the most of this system and navigate the portal with ease. It's a great resource for caregivers to stay up to date on their child's progress.

**ROOM C  
HEALTH AND  
WELLBEING**
**Navigating the Diagnostic Odyssey**

*Bharatendu "Bharat" Chandra, MBBS, MRCP, FAMS & Moon Ley Tung, MBBS, MRCP, FRCPATH; University of Iowa Health Care - Stead Family Children's Hospital*

Rare and undiagnosed diseases affect over 30 million people in the United States and over 450 million people globally. Unfortunately, most of these diseases are associated with several years of diagnostic odyssey, resulting in a huge psychosocial and financial burden on the patients and their families. In this session, the speakers will cover a broad overview of undiagnosed diseases and rare diseases, which will set the stage for discussion on this topic and for families to share their experiences.

**SPECIAL NOTE — A CONFERENCE WITHIN A CONFERENCE  
1 - 3 PM IN THE KEYNOTE ROOM (Upper Level)**

Join us for an open forum for patients and families to discuss their challenges with undiagnosed and rare diseases. Participants will share their personal experiences with the diagnostic odyssey.

**ROOM D  
DISABILITY  
LAW**
**When the Absent Days Start to Add Up**

*Stephanie Petrillo, B.A., J.D., Staff Attorney, Disability Rights Iowa*

In this session, participants will learn about chronic absenteeism and how it affects student success and school performance. Stephanie will explain truancy laws in Iowa, providing important information to help understand these regulations. She will also discuss how caregivers can work with school teams to support chronically absent students and promote attendance. This session is ideal for educators, administrators, and caregivers committed to improving student outcomes.

11:45 am - 1:00 pm

## LUNCH BREAK

Lunch can be enjoyed in the exhibit hall, a breakout room, the keynote room, or outside.

**Youth, Young Adults & YLA Alumni:**

Join us for lunch in Breakout Room A-1 and hear about exciting leadership and networking opportunities coming up this year!

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

## BREAKOUT SESSION

ROOM A-1  
YOUTH  
AND  
YOUNG  
ADULT  
LEADERS

### How to Run for and Serve on Something

*Jenn Wolff, B.A., M.O.T., O.T.; Community Outreach Specialist, Waverly Caring Assistance Network and Waverly City Councilwoman & Alex Watters, B.S., M.S.; Alumni Engagement Director, Morningside University; Sioux City Councilman*

Are you motivated to make changes in your community? Are you not sure where to begin? Join local leaders Jenn and Alex for a helpful session where they will share their personal journeys of stepping up to run for council. Hear about what inspired their decisions, the steps they took along the way, and how they decided on key issues to tackle first. Don't miss this chance to find your own path to make change!

ROOM A-2  
POST-  
SECONDARY  
TRANSITION

### The Top 10 Things Every Parent Should Know About Section 504 and the ADA

*Catherine Johnson, B.B.A., M.H.Ed., J.D.; Executive Director, Disability Rights Iowa*

Join Catherine Johnson, JD, for a helpful session about the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. These laws play a key role in ensuring access and fairness for people with disabilities. You will learn about the events that led to the creation of the ADA and Section 504 and the advocacy efforts involved. Catherine will cover the main parts of the laws and how they continue to help with disabilities in areas like jobs, public services, and accommodations. This session aims to raise awareness and deepen your understanding of why the ADA and Section 504 matter. It will encourage you to support inclusivity in your community. You will leave with the knowledge to help create a more accessible world for everyone.

ROOM B  
EDUCATION

### What to Do when the BIP Isn't Working

*Kristi Miiller, LISW, ; Grant Wood Area Education Agency - Challenging Behavior Team*

Join us for an engaging session with Kristi where we'll dive into the key steps school teams can take when a student with a Behavior Intervention Plan (BIP) faces ongoing challenges. Kristi will share a helpful roadmap to reduce problem behaviors while also teaching valuable replacement skills that support positive outcomes for students. This interactive journey is all about empowering educators and caregivers with practical tools and techniques to boost student success.

ROOM C  
HEALTH AND  
WELLBEING

### Back to Balance

*Courtney Sutherland, C-IAYT, E-RYT 500, YACEP, Yoga Therapist, Unlocking You Yoga Therapy*

Need a rejuvenating escape? Join Courtney for a soothing session to help you reclaim your center. In this session, you'll learn practical tools to balance your nervous system, regulate stress, and energize yourself. We'll explore simple, accessible practices to guide you back to calm and balance. No special yoga attire or experience is required. If you can carve out even-a-minute for self-care each day, this session is perfect for you. Embrace your journey to relaxation and energy rejuvenation!

ROOM D  
DISABILITY  
LAW

### Deciding When to Dispute

*Edie Bogaczyk, Parent & Attorney; Bogaczyk Law Firm*

Parents and guardians have many rights in Special Education, including the right to disagree with the Individualized Education Program (IEP) team and express concerns about supports and services for their child. In this session, join attorney and parent Edie as she explains the range of formal and informal options parents have to address IEP related concerns. Edie will help clarify the factors to consider when determining if formal legal action is necessary and what families should keep in mind when opting for this route.

2:00 pm - 2:15 pm

## CONFERENCE BREAK

**ROOM A-1  
YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT LEADERS**

**How to Keep a Job Coach – the Self-Advocate Edition**

*Haris Kovacevic, L.M.S.W.; Employment Consultant, Easterseals Iowa*

Join Haris for an engaging session exploring the partnership between Easter Seals and Athene in developing the Athene@Work program, which supports individuals with disabilities in the workforce. Attendees will learn about the essential role of job coaches in achieving successful employment outcomes and gain practical tips for partnering effectively with them. This session will provide tools to create inclusive employment opportunities and drive positive change. Don't miss out!

**ROOM A-2  
POST-SECONDARY TRANSITION**

**Post-Secondary Transition Planning Sessions**

*Pam Woelber, MA, Post-Secondary Transition Coordinator, ASK Resource Center*

As a child with a disability ages into adulthood, many factors come into play. The IEP changes the year a child turns 14 to include Post Secondary Expectations (PSEs). Parents also need to consider how their child will be supported in adulthood monetarily. Join this "unsession" to get your questions answered about the post-secondary transition IEP, social security benefits, voc rehab and more! Experts will be available to help answer your most pressing questions.

**ROOM B  
EDUCATION**

**What Worked and What Didn't**

*Patty Origer, Cheryl Lehman, Emma Bouza, MAE; ASK Volunteer Mentors*

Join us for an informative session with Patty, Cheryl and Emma, three experienced ASK Mentors. They will share their insights on advocating for school and health services for their children with disabilities. This session will include a Q&A to help parents ask questions and learn effective advocacy strategies. You will hear about the challenges and successes they faced on their journeys. You'll also discover how the ASK Each Other Mentor Network can support you and your family. Whether you need guidance or want community support, this session is a great chance to connect with others who understand your experiences. You are not alone-come and join the conversation!

**ROOM C  
HEALTH AND WELLBEING**

**Expanding Iowa's ADRC System - With a Capital D**

*Zachary Rhein, B.A., M.A.; Director of Aging and Disability Services, Iowa Department of Health and Human Services*

Do you have questions about Iowa's Disability Services System? The Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs) are a network of organizations that help older adults, people with disabilities, and their families access long-term services and supports. Join Director Zach Rhein to hear about navigating ADRC services and key changes happening in July. You will also have the opportunity to ask your pressing questions to a director who cares about you and what you are facing as a family.

**ROOM D  
DISABILITY LAW**

**Preparing for 18**

*Cynthia Letsch, JD, CMP*

As your child approaches their 18th birthday, many important decisions come into play regarding their future and your role in it. This informative session by Cynthia will teach you the differences between Power of Attorney, Conservatorship, and Guardianship. This will help you identify which option might be suitable for your child. Additionally, Cynthia will help you prepare for court by knowing what to expect and how to navigate the process effectively. Join us to gain the knowledge and confidence needed to support your child during this significant transition.

3:15 PM - 3:30 PM

## CONFERENCE BREAK

3:30 PM -  
4:00 PM

Upper  
Level

**CLOSING REMARKS AND CALL TO ACTION:** Dr. Barbara Guy wraps up the day of learning as she shares takeaways from her day of connecting with everyone at the conference.

**EXHIBITOR FAIR DRAWING—MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN:** Over \$2,000 in prizes will be drawn. See the Exhibit Raffle Form in your packet to learn more. **Place your completed form in the raffle drawing box located in the Exhibit Hall beside the ASK table by 3:30 pm to be included in the drawing.**

*Drawing is at 3:50 pm in the Keynote Room upstairs. Must be present to win.*

4:00 - 4:30 pm

## CHILDCARE PICK-UP

### CHILDCARE PICK-UP

Children must be picked up no later than 4:30 pm.

**THANK YOU Easterseals Bob and Billie Ray Child Development Center staff  
for providing a fun and inclusive environment!**

## CONFERENCE T-SHIRTS

**Conference t-shirts are available in the lobby.**

\$17 for Small— Extra Large

\$22 for 2x & 3x

**100% of the proceeds from t-shirts sales support the TWC Conference.**

LOBBY

## CONFERENCE MATERIALS

**All available presentation materials (PowerPoints, handouts, etc.) will be posted to:**  
*<https://www.askresource.org/togetherwecan> after the conference.*

**All conference attendees will receive email notice when the items are available.**

## CEU'S

**CEUs and CLEs are available for purchase at the Registration Desk.  
All of the proceeds from training credit sales support the conference.**

### PRICING AND CREDIT DETAILS:

- **Attorneys:** \$30 (3 credits, 1 of those in Ethics, approved by the Iowa Bar Association)
- **Certified Rehabilitation Counselors:** Training Credits on the separate CEU sheet located in your packet
- **Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists:** \$30 (4 Credits approved in accordance with Iowa Administrative Rules: 645-281.3(154D, 272C) & 645-32.3(154D, 272C) Standards )
- **Licensed Mental Health Counselors:** \$30 (4 Credits approved in accordance with Iowa Administrative Rules: 645-281.3(154D, 272C) & 645-32.3(154D, 272C) Standards )
- **Peer Support Specialists, Family Peer Support Specialists, and Substance Abuse Certifications:** \$30 (4 Credits approved in Special Populations by the Iowa Board of Certification )
- **Social Workers:** \$30 (4 Credits approved in accordance with Iowa Administrative Rules: 645-281.3(154D, 272C) & 645-32.3(154D, 272C) Standards)
- **Foster Care:** FREE (4 Credits approved by the IA Department of Health and Human Services for Keynote Speaker and 3 out of 16 breakout sessions)

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

**A HUGE THANK YOU** to the partner organizations, sponsors, volunteers, exhibitors and attendees for being a part of the 13th Annual Together We Can Conference!  
This one-of-a-kind, statewide event would not be possible without your continued support.

## CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Listed alphabetically by member type and last name

### PARENTS:

**Cindy Blackard**  
**Leila Hussein**  
**Summer Murdock**

### YOUNG ADULTS:

**Zach Bogaczyk**  
**Thomas Hathaway**  
**Evan Murdock**

### ASK STAFF ON PLANNING COMMITTEE:

**Kelli Carnahan, Communications and Training Coordinator Statewide**  
**Susie Lund, Training Coordinator Statewide**  
**Pam Woelber, Post-Secondary Transition Coordinator Statewide**



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## CONFERENCE SPONSORS



## QUIET ROOM SPONSORED BY:



## BREAKFAST, WATER, COFFEE SPONSORED BY:



## T-SHIRTS PRINTED BY:



## LUNCHES PROVIDED BY:



## EVENT VENUE PROVIDED BY:



## CHILDCARE PROVIDED BY:



## ASL PROVIDED BY:



## PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

Listed alphabetically by last name

**Edie Bogaczyk**, a special education attorney, has practiced law for 30 years and has been an advocate throughout her entire adult life. After working in various non-traditional legal roles, Edie returned to the practice of law, working full-time in an area of disability rights that would fulfill the need for legal support for families in special education law. Edie and her husband, David, have an adult son and daughter. Their son was born with Prader-Willi Syndrome and had an IEP for over 15 years. He recently graduated from 4+ services and works part-time as a barista.

**Emma Bouza** is a dedicated wife to Ben and mom to Norah (16) and Ruby (14). With a deep commitment to education, Emma recently completed her Master's in Special Education and has spent the last 8 years working in the field. She is also actively involved in various local and state boards and committees. Emma recently ran for the Iowa House of Representatives, advocating for greater support and resources for individuals with disabilities. In addition, she founded Ruby's Red Bags, whose mission is dedicated to equipping first responders with sensory-friendly bags designed to help children and adults with sensory processing needs during emergencies. Emma worked with legislators in Iowa to pass Ruby's Law which ensures individuals with disabilities can not be denied an organ transplant solely based on their diagnosis.

**Bharatendu "Bharat" Chandra** is an Assistant Professor and director of the Undiagnosed Diseases Program at the University of Iowa. He is a neurogeneticist and rare diseases researcher. Dr. Chandra will share his experience from the Iowa Undiagnosed Diseases Program highlighting the clinical landscape, challenges, and emerging approaches for individuals with undiagnosed rare diseases.

**Shannon Grundmeier** serves as an Education Program Consultant in the Division of Special Education at the Iowa Department of Education. In this role, she is responsible for the development, implementation and ongoing maintenance of the statewide system for implementation of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). As a parent of children with disabilities with more than 15 years of experience in education, she proudly supported the launch of the nation's first online platform to provide Early ACCESS and Special Education records to families. Shannon is a Prosci-certified Change Management practitioner and has earned several degrees from Iowa State University, including a B.S. in Business Management, a B.A. in Psychology, and a M.Ed. in Psychology, and a M.Ed. in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies.

**Nancy Hunt** serves as an Education Program Consultant in the Division of Special Education at the Iowa Department of Education. In this role, she is a member of the internal team that supports the implementation and ongoing technical assistance for the ACHIEVE Family Portal. Nancy has worked at the Department for 13 years where she has worked on a variety of projects and grants in the areas of professional learning, special education and mental health. She has a bachelor's degree in Psychology/Human Relations Education from the University of Iowa and a master's degree in Public Administration from Drake University.

**Catherine E. Johnson** received her Bachelor of Business Administration, Juris Doctor, and Master's in Higher Education degrees from the University of Iowa. Prior to joining the great team at Disability Rights Iowa, Catherine's work included serving as the Assistant Dean of Students at St. Louis University School of Law, the Director of Student Legal Services at the University of Iowa, and a disability rights attorney at Disability Rights Center of Kansas. Before becoming the Executive Director of DRI, she was the Director of the ADA Resource Center for Equity and Accessibility at the University of Kansas. Catherine has devoted her career to impactful civil rights work on behalf of individuals with disabilities.

**Haris Kovacevic**, LMSW, currently works at Easterseals Iowa as an Employment Consultant, where he assists a local insurance company hire, train, and retain individuals with disabilities. In addition to Easterseals Iowa, Haris has worked at other Des Moines area non-profit organizations providing services to children and adults. Haris graduated from Grand View University in 2014 and the University of Iowa in 2023. In his free time, Haris enjoys spending time with his wife, their three dogs, their friends and family. His hobbies include board games, card games, and music.

**Cynthia Letsch** earned her undergraduate degree from Southern Methodist University and her Juris Doctor from Drake University Law School in 1995, graduating with honors. She has experience in private practice, university teaching, and corporate counsel, and became a Certified Medicaid Planner (CMPTM) in 2024. Since opening her current office in 2013, she has focused on Elder Law, Estate Planning, Special Needs Planning, and Probate/Trust Administration.



**Lisa Lohman** serves as a Management Analyst 3 for ACHIEVE in the Division of Special Education at the Iowa Department of Education. In this role, she is responsible for assisting project management with development, implementation, ongoing maintenance, and technical support of the statewide system for implementation of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Lisa served as the Technical and Support Specialist for the IDEA statewide applications for 12 years prior to coming to the Department and has a total of 26 years of experience working with Local Education Agencies, Area Education Agencies and the Iowa Department of Education in Iowa within the areas of General Education and Special Education. She has knowledge in data analysis, database structure and an understanding of Early ACCESS and IDEA procedures in Iowa. This knowledge has assisted her in providing technical training and support to Local Education Agency and Area Education Agency staff across the state in Iowa.

**Kristi Miiller** has worked as a school-based behavior consultant for 18 years with a Master's degree in Social Work. She currently serves on the Challenging Behavior Support Team at Grant Wood AEA, providing professional development and individual student consultation. Outside of work, she enjoys chasing four kids around ballparks and soccer fields, and completing coursework toward a BCBA certification.

**Patty Origer** serves as the Persons with Disability Ministry Coordinator for the Diocese of Des Moines, Iowa, a role she's filled since 2019. She holds a bachelor's degree in Health Information Management from the College of Saint Mary in Omaha, Nebraska. Patty and her husband, Ed, are the parents of four children, the oldest of whom has cerebral palsy and intellectual disabilities. For several years, she was a stay-at-home parent to meet her son's healthcare needs. For the last 13 years, she has been on the faculty of Des Moines Area Community College as a faculty member in health information technology and as a student advisor. Advocating for the needs of her son led Patty to advocate for all persons with disabilities. She became a resource and mentor for other families and caregivers. While continuing her position at the community college, she began a newly created role of Coordinator for Persons With Disabilities with the Diocese. Her ministry role allows her to blend her love of her faith with her passion for advocating on behalf of individuals with disabilities.

**Stephanie Petrillo** joined Disability Rights Iowa in 2022 after graduating with honors from Drake Law School. While at Drake, Stephanie focused on public policy and civil rights law, and interned with non-profits and government entities. This work highlighted for her how the issues people with disabilities face are connected and intertwined, and the important role that she has when advocating for her clients. Prior to law school, Stephanie graduated from Grand View University with a bachelor's degree in History and a minor in the Logos Honors program. Stephanie's work at DRI includes helping clients with special education, employment, guardianship, and accommodation issues, as well as educating lawmakers on these topics. In her free time, Stephanie enjoys spending time with friends and family, reading and learning new things, and playing with her Bassett Hound named Fred.

**Zachary Rhein** serves as Iowa's Director for the Aging and Disability Services division within the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Zach has over 20 years of experience working in federal and state government and nonprofit organizations, where he has focused on designing programs that meet individuals' basic needs. While at the Iowa Department on Aging, Zach served as the Director of Programs, where he led several initiatives focused on helping older Iowans maintain their independence for as long as possible. He worked as the RSVP Program Director, developing programs and recruiting volunteers, and as a Compliance Officer, monitoring Iowa's six Area Agencies on Aging to ensure compliance with the Older Americans Act programs.

**Courtney Sutherland** is a passionate advocate for the healing power of yoga, practicing since 1998. She is a certified E-RYT 500 Yoga Teacher with Yoga Alliance and holds an 800-hour C-IAYT certification from the International Association of Yoga Therapists. Throughout her life, Courtney has faced significant challenges, including early menopause, job loss, a serious arm injury, and the difficulties of the COVID pandemic. After experiencing these trials and going through a divorce, she returned to Iowa after 20 years in Colorado. These experiences have helped her apply the principles of Yoga Therapy, which provide tools to cope with life's changes. Now dedicated to supporting other women through their transitions, Courtney shares the insights and strength she has gained along her journey, helping others find their resilience and personal power.

**Moon Ley Tung** is an Assistant Professor in the Stead Family Department of Pediatrics at the University of Iowa. She is an adult hematologist and clinical geneticist with a research interest in rare hematological disorders. Dr. Tung will share her experience working with patients with rare genetic disorders and the challenges that these patients face after being diagnosed with a rare disease.

**Alex Watters** grew up in Northwest Iowa, where his father was a police officer and his mother worked in their family-owned business. He moved to Sioux City in 2004 to attend Morningside University earning a degree in political science, followed by a Master's in negotiation and dispute resolution from Creighton University. After an internship with the US Department of Education in Washington, DC, Alex returned to Northwest Iowa in 2012 as a Field Organizer for the President's re-election campaign. He currently is the Alumni Engagement Director for Morningside University and has been on the City Council for Sioux City since 2017.

**Pam Woelber** is the Transition Coordinator for ASK Resource Center. She lives in Northwest Iowa with her daughter Evy. Pam has a master's degree in Vocational Rehabilitation from Drake University. She has a passion for helping assist families and young adults during the transition from high school to adult living. Pam does that in a variety of ways. She is a foster parent who takes in young ladies between the age of 14-18 to help them as they transition to adulthood. She has also worked in the area of family support and post-secondary transition for the past 22 years while working for Northwest AEA and now ASK Resource Center. Pam has lived experience with disabilities. Her oldest daughter, now 27, received Early Access services, IEP services during her school years, and now adult disabilities services.

**Jenn Wolff** is a Community Outreach Specialist in Waverly, Iowa. She is also on the Waverly city council. Jenn became disabled during graduate school which allowed her to experience needing care before providing it as a therapist. This also opened her eyes to systemic discrimination the disability community and other marginalized communities deal with on a regular basis. She organized with #UpgradeMedicaid to collect and share the stories of those most impacted by the care crisis happening in Iowa and across the nation to create change.