KINGS FLOYD: Sorry y'all.

We're going to talk about mentoring.

We are going to talk about youth.

We are going to talk about NCIL.

Hey everyone, if you don't know who I am already,

I'm still Kings .

I am the youth transition fellow at the National Council on Independent Living.

So the YTF, as it is affectionately known, is a position sponsored by the HSC Foundation and housed at NCIL.

It's a really cool balance between policy and advocacy and IL and just youth work in general

throughout the greater DC area.

So my term is 15 months. I started in June of last year and I will end at the end of August of this year.

It's a really cool program, because I get a lot of different experience working with centers for independent living and youth across the country.

So I work with centers for independent living and youth transition coordinators to develop youth

programming locally but also nationally.

I've worked with centers for independent living and youth all across the country to help them develop their curriculum for the new core service. I also maintain the greater Washington internship coalition. We'll talk more about that in a second.

And advising the National Disability Mentoring Coalition. NCIL and the Youth Transition

Collaborative, which is where NCIL is housed, places a really big emphasis on mentoring at any age. Versus youth, versus adults, versus a person with a disability, versus a person without a disability. We believe mentoring is incredibly important because it strengthens what you can learn and what experiences you have. And continuing to grow and learn is essential to being successful.

So part of what I do to initiate that is I help run the NCIL Youth Caucus.

So it's made up of over 100 NCIL youth members, they are 26 or under, all over the country from the east coast to the west coast to Alaska.

They are either engaged via their centers or independently as a unique member.

And we have monthly phone calls to discuss issues, ideas, the movement agenda, local and national updates.

We talk about everything from mentoring to sexuality, to disability pride to disability culture and engaging that in our centers. How can youth affect their centers locally and nationally. And those are every month. We encourage anyone here who is a youth, and we define youth as 26 or under.

If you are a NCIL member and under 26, you are automatically eligible to join the NCIL Youth Caucus. If that is something you are interested in, give me a shout out because we would love to have more people. We also meet once a year in person.

During the NCIL Annual Conference. It's really incredible because the youth have their own agenda and there's a youth track, and we are just integrated so wholly into the NCIL youth conference that it's an incredible experience.

And it's really swayed how the conference has gone since the YTF has been in affect in 2014.So the caucus is co-chaired by the NCIL fellow, which is me.My co-partner in crime, her name is Jessica Jimenez. She is an official youth caucus elected member. And we vote on it every year, it changes once a year, along with the NCIL youth fellow. And that way we can keep new blood and new ideas running throughout our youth caucus and our youth membership.

We also help elect the NCIL youth at large member who sits on the board and has a say in what we want the board's priorities to be in terms of youth work.

Something else that I help support and develop as a new core service.

I didn't help develop the new core service, but I help centers develop their youth programs.

So part of my position is knowing what CILs are doing in regards to WIOAs new core service.

Who is doing it really well? Who's doing it poorly? Who has new ideas in terms of transportation, in terms of employment, in terms of secondary education? What is happening all across the country? And what centers could benefit from other centers doing it well?

That means being able to help CILs develop, maintain youth curriculum and support youth curriculum. I have to know a fair amount about WIOA. What does it mean? What are the regulations? What do centers have to comply with in terms of youth work?

I also started a monthly youth transition coordinator call.

It's actually bimonthly, but what happens is we get youth who are youth transition coordinators from all across the country to talk to one another about the problems they're having in terms of youth. Is it transportation? Is it getting young people to the centers? Is it continuing to get schools involved? Is it employment?

And then centers who have said, Hey, we found a really cool solution to adaptive driving, to getting young people to the center, to fund raising for NCIL and, you know, our centers' events.

That's really cool in terms of they get to support each other and I help facilitate that.

If you're interested in that as well, feel free to let me know.

I can easily add you to those calls.

It's not a great commitment, but a lot of people are finding a lot of good use out of it.

It lets people know that they are not alone in struggling to help your center grow their youth

population.

Something not on the list

and not on the board is

I also run the NCIL youth

scholarship, NCIL youth

conference scholarship.

That is a fund for members

and non-members who

are interested in

learning more about IL.

You can get up to $1200

for a national scholarship.

And the youth come,

they are paid for the

membership for a

year and they get support.

They're in the youth caucus

and involved in our activities

throughout the conference

and then year-round.

It's a great way to, you know,

skyrocket people into this

movement that is so

supportive for young

people with disabilities.

Shameless plug here.

If any of your centers are

feeling super generous

and you want to donate

to the NCIL Youth Caucus

or the NCIL Youth Scholarship,

let me know.

We would seriously

appreciate it.

We have amazing advocates

who are not quite funded yet,

and that would be awesome.

So the last thing I will talk

about is the Greater

Washington Internship

Coalition.

That was something that

was developed in partnership

with HSC, and it is a group

of internship programs working

to include young people with

disabilities specifically,

that are based in the greater

Washington D.C. area.

So these organizations have

said, we pledge that we are

very interested in hiring

and supporting young

people with disabilities.

This is not a region restricted

internship program.

Most of the organizations

are based in D.C., but

a lot of them have

telecommuting options.

A lot of them have bases

in many states in the U.S.

If you have young people

that are interested,

the website at the bottom

gives you the list of over

40 organizations

of different tracts.

And we work with

the Kennedy Center.

We work with USBLN.

We work with some centers,

in fact.

And it's a great way to help

young people find an interest

that they're passionate about

and potentially get paid for it,

but definitely get

job experience for it.

At the same time, not involved

with the Greater Washington

Internship Coalition and

something that Sierra's

talked about and I talked

about yesterday,

we have the grants for the

Walmart Foundation.

That was three centers that

committed to propelling

a youth with disabilities into

disability mentoring day

and sustaining that

project year-round.

The really cool thing is

there's a tool kit that's

going to come out of that.

It talks about how to help

young people with disabilities

find and keep mentors.

And how to help youth with

disabilities be placed in

internships and job

shadowing experiences.

That's been an incredible

work plan to help three

centers, but then hopefully

centers all across the U.S.

when it's published.

Awesome.

So I am now going to invite

Paula up, because she's

going to talk about

ILRU resources.

TIM FUCHS: I'm only coming

up to put the laptop on line.

But I wanted to mention,

Kings mentioned the youth

at large seat on NCIL's board,

and I was involved in that.

And part of my role at NCIL is

I do attend the board meetings.

I found it fascinating that

so many of us old farts

were worried about

tokenism in regards

to creating a youth

board seat.

Really we were

concerned about it.

The board wanted to be

supportive but were really

concerned about that.

It was really,

it was the youth caucus

that said, that's not an issue.

And outlined their reasoning.

That was what made the

change and got the board

and ultimately the

membership,

all of NCIL's membership

to approve that.

So I think it's really important

as we're thinking about ways

to change our organizations,

that's been, it's been so

cool now to have

that person involved.

APRIL took this journey

years and years ago

and deserves credit for it.

What's so cool to see, too,

is it's not just that youth

at large seat, but we have

other young people being

elected to other board

positions as well,

which is exactly what

young people said would

happen and it's happened

in a very short amount of time.

It's really interesting to see.

I said earlier, we're all in

this together, and I think

the national organizations

are feeling it, too.

We went from three youth

members just three and

a half years ago,

it was embarrassing.

To now over 100.

So it has been a

really cool journey.

So anyway,

just wanted to add that.

PAULA MCELWEE: Very cool.

I hope most of you have

been to the ILRU website.

I haven't told you what ILRU

stands before because

it's so cumbersome.

Maybe we will have

to edit that out.

Independent Living

Research Utilization.

At our place we don't make

that into a word, although

I have heard some

of you do that.

If it works for you,

that's fine.

We always say

the initials, ILRU.

Tim's going to

go to that site right now.

In your packet, on the slide

we are moving away from.

In that packet you have

a long link that you can go to,

and that's the link

specifically for youth transition.

You can get to it

a lot of other ways.

This is true all the

way through our website.

So as you look at our

website itself,

what you'll find is that

our website is more

searchable than

it used to be.

So if you're a user that kind

of struggled with it a couple

of years ago, I think you'll

find it much more searchable.

We have archived a lot of

the older material that

doesn't appear to be

immediately pertinent

so that we could give you

a little less to try and navigate.

And when you're on that

page, what you'll find is

on the right-hand side,

you'll see that search bar.

So if Tim just types the word

"youth" into that search bar,

it better work right?

He went to the long link.

Lets see what happens here.

Then you get these same

things about youth programs.

And so all of those search

results will come up and

show you different things.

If you want to know

about fees for service,

you type in fees for service.

If you want to know about

boards, type in boards.

We have training

of all different kinds.

Let me tell you briefly what

some of the formats are.

On-demand training,

which you will find in

that bar across the top.

There's on-demand

training, and it will pop

down a bunch of topics.

And on-demand training you can

do any time in your own time.

You can go into it.

It's accessible.

You should be able to find

almost any topic that you're

interested in.

And that is webinars that

have happened already.

So after you go to the live

webinar, within 48 hours,

the full webinar is posted.

So if you had a conflict

and couldn't attend a live

webinar, all of those

webinars are online.

And the same is true

with this kind of training

with most of our

onsite trainings.

So we have just put

up the intersectionality

training from last year.

And the financial

training is there.

A lot of you who are working

with financial things,

you will find two and

a half days' worth of

this exact format of

presenting with the

PowerPoint and audio

and captions all available

for you so that you can

do it section by section.

And each section's titled

so you don't have to do

the whole two and a half days.

You can find the part of

it you were interested in.

When you do that for this

training, you can take

it to the rest of your staff.

You can provide a segment

of it for your board as a

rationale for youth services.

You can use the information

that's there as long as you

give credit to the IL-NET,

the consortium of all of the

partners that are working

to put these things all in

one place for you.

As long as you give us credit,

you can use our materials

without any charge.

So you can copy them,

you can give printed

copies out to folks.

You can use it in

your staff training.

You can have it

your board training.

And here is another

little secret,

the same topics that

you find in on-demand

training down there are

also on browse by topic

at the right-hand side.

If you want a quick way to

figure out what topics

there are, you can look

down through that and

find all of your topics.

And if you can't find

something, or if you

just don't have time

to figure it out.

You really can just email me,

drop me a note, I almost

always answer within

the hour unless I am

someplace like this.

I can give you

an exact link.

If you're struggling with

it in anyway, don't feel like

you have to do that.

If you are not finding

what you are looking for,

just drop me a note

I will find it and if I can't,

I'll find someone who can.

Just let me know that you're

looking for something

specific and what the

purpose is and I'll see

what I can find for you.

Does that help?

Is that what we wanted

to know about ILRU?

How many of you have

used the website before?

Oh, I love it.

That's almost everybody.

I hope you are

finding it useful.

If you have suggestions

for us, we are doing a

revamp of some of the

way it's arranged.

If you have ideas to make it

easier, you can drop that in

an e-mail or on a sticky

notes and we'll take it

into consideration.

TIM FUCHS: Thanks, Paula.

And that goes for

anybody in the project.

I hope this is obvious at

this point even on day one,

one thing we are

not is territorial.

No matter who you call,

folks at APRIL or NCIL staff

or ILRU, if you write,

we will pull some of

the content and say check this

out and see if this helps.

One of my favorite red cards

said those videos are super

boring.

Like, I get it.

Two and a half days of

video content on financial

management and federal

regulations, not exciting.

But if you think about

a webinar on community

organizing and systems

advocacy for a new staff

member and that's their job

and they're feeling wide eyed

and scared, not boring.

Let us take the mystery

out of it and help

put some things together

for you a little bit.