

# Collaborative Mentoring Webinar Series



## **Mentoring Youth with Disabilities:** *An Opportunity for Friendship, Awareness and A World of Possibility*

*July 19, 2018*

# 2018 Collaborative Mentoring Webinar Series Planning Team

The Collaborative Mentoring Webinar Series is funded by the **Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention** through the National Mentoring Resource Center and facilitated in partnership with MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership



*Collaborative Mentoring Webinar Series*

# Good to Know...

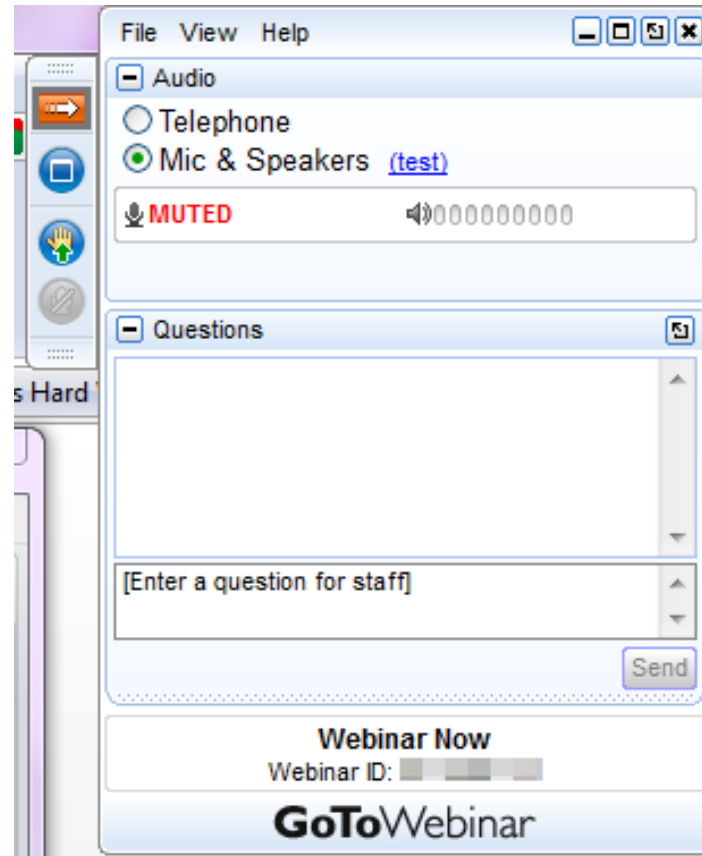
**One week after the webinar, all attendees receive an email with:**

- Instructions for how to access a PDF of presentation slides and webinar recording
- Link to the Collaborative Mentoring Webinar Series webpage, where all slides, recordings and resources are posted

**Please help us out by answering survey questions at the end of the webinar.**

# Participate in Today's Webinar

- All attendees muted for best sound
- Type questions and comments in the question box
- Respond to polls
- Who is with us today?



# Panelist: Partners for Youth with Disabilities (PYD)



**Genelle C. Thomas, Director of National Initiatives** is passionate about empowering organizations to become inclusive environments that support youth of all abilities to reach their full potential. She has over 18 years of experience in non-profit management, including at the executive and board levels. She has authored/co-authored, “Best Practices for Mentoring Youth with Disabilities,” “National Implications for Mentoring Youth with Disabilities,” and “Expanding Access and Inclusion for Youth with Disabilities: An Inclusion Guide for America’s Youth Programs.”



**Kristin Humphrey, Mentoring Director** oversees the Mentor Match program at PYD to ensure that the program goals are met. A strong proponent of mentoring, she has been involved with mentoring for over a decade, beginning with her role as a volunteer mentor. She is a member of the National Mentoring Resource Stakeholder council and the National Disability Mentoring Coalition. She has worked with youth with disabilities for the past nine years and founded a club at Connecticut College that facilitated group mentoring for siblings of youth with disabilities.

# Panelist: Access Living - Disability Justice Mentoring Collective



**Elesha Nightingale, Program Coordinator** of the Disability Justice Mentoring Collective (DJMC) and the Youth Information and Education Leadership Development Workshops (YIELD) at Access Living in Chicago. She has over 10 years of experience in the non-profit sector working with youth, people with disabilities, homeless populations, and victims of domestic violence. She facilitates mentoring groups and workshops for youth with disabilities to strengthen mentoring relationships, build youth leadership skills, and promote social justice.

# Panelist: Parent and Founder, Teachability



**Cindy Montgomery, Parent and Founder of Teachability**, an organization dedicated to developing innovative programs and strategies to lead people with disabilities into work. She has worked as an Operations Associate at Morgan Stanley, Assistant Director of Student Services in the Financial Markets and Trading Graduate program at Illinois Institute of Technology and as Regional Sales Manager for the Institute of Financial Education. Cindy also sits on the Woman's Board of the Children's Home & Aid Society of Illinois and is a participant in the Illinois Partners in Policymaking Program.



# Facilitator: MENTOR Illinois



## **Cheryl Howard – Neal, Director of Programs & Partnerships**

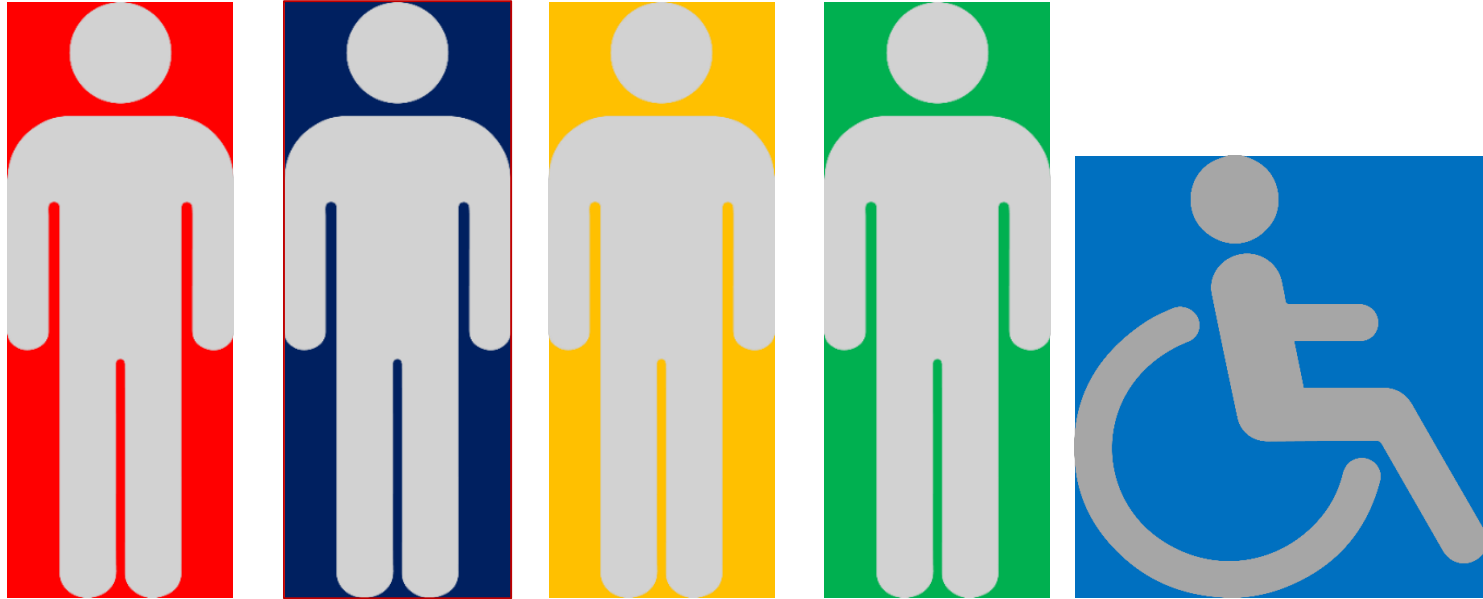
More than 25 years of service in the non-profit sector working with mentoring and after-school programs. Managing relationships with community, faith-based and corporate volunteers. Facilitates trainings and workshops around the state and provides technical assistance to mentoring programs on best practices.





Mentoring Youth with Disabilities

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1 in 5 people in the U.S. has a disability at any point in time



Not all disabilities look like this...



Some look like this





Partners for  
Youth with Disabilities

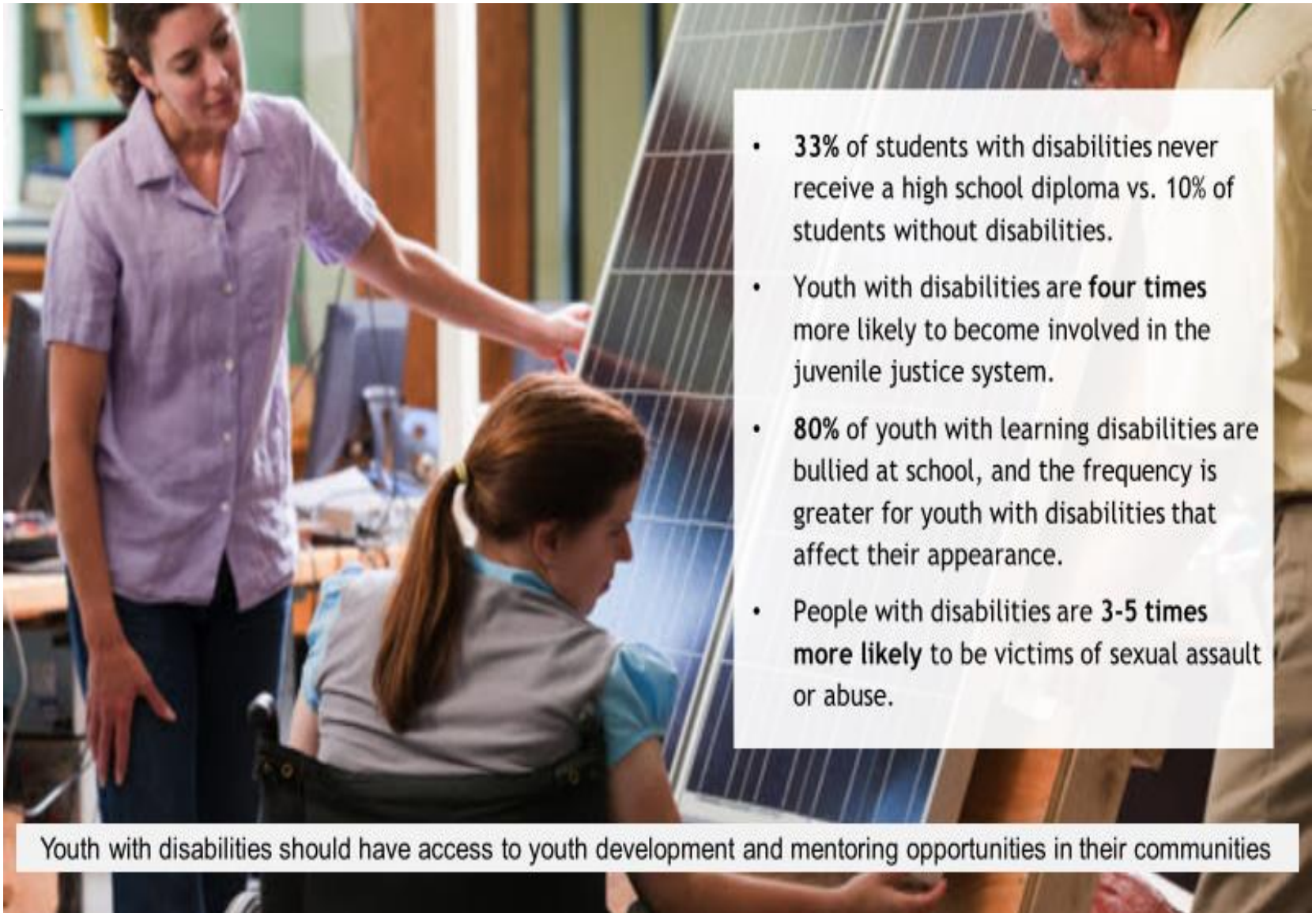
To create a world where young people with disabilities can lead **self-determined lives** filled with dignity, pride, and purpose.



Partners for  
Youth with Disabilities



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- **33%** of students with disabilities never receive a high school diploma vs. **10%** of students without disabilities.
- Youth with disabilities are **four times** more likely to become involved in the juvenile justice system.
- **80%** of youth with learning disabilities are bullied at school, and the frequency is greater for youth with disabilities that affect their appearance.
- People with disabilities are **3-5 times more likely** to be victims of sexual assault or abuse.

Youth with disabilities should have access to youth development and mentoring opportunities in their communities





## PYD's Mentor Match Program

- Founded in 1985 prior to the passage of the ADA.
- Goal is to help young people with disabilities meet their full potential for personal development and independence
- Based on MENTOR's *Elements of Effective Practice*
- PYD's model has been replicated in numerous states, most recently through a grant from the Department of Labor, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention



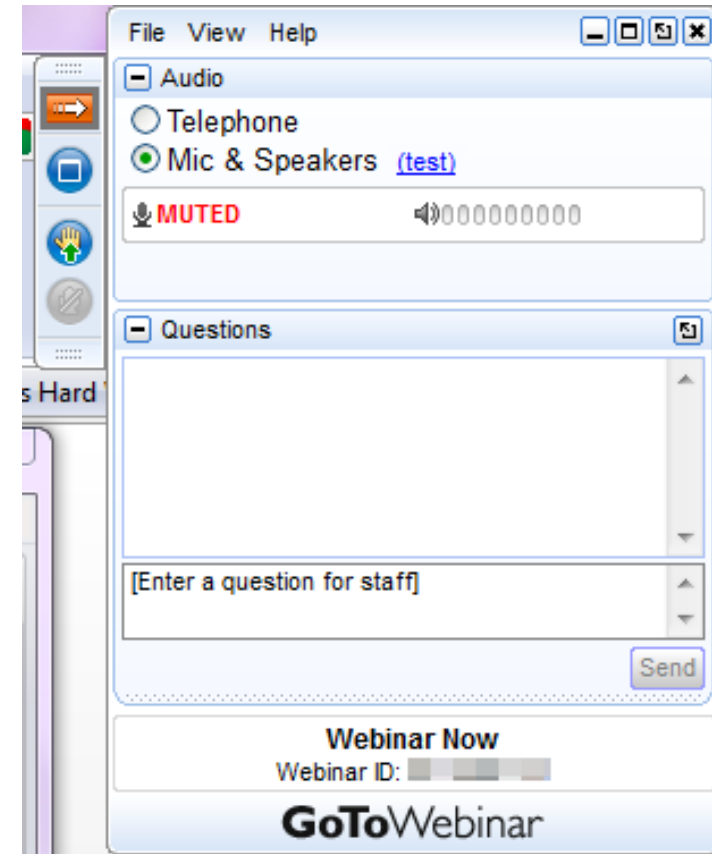


## Program Specifics

- Matches are expected to initially commit to one year.
- Matches meet in person for at least four to six hours a month, and are in touch on a weekly basis by phone or email.
- Mentees and mentors do all sorts of things together: work on personal goals, go to museums and sports games, play games, do art projects, and more!

# Q&A

Type your questions in the question box:



# Disability Justice Mentoring Collective



DJMC is a mentoring program at Access Living

DJMC provides a unique opportunity for youth with disabilities, ages 12 to 24, to receive guidance and support from a mentor

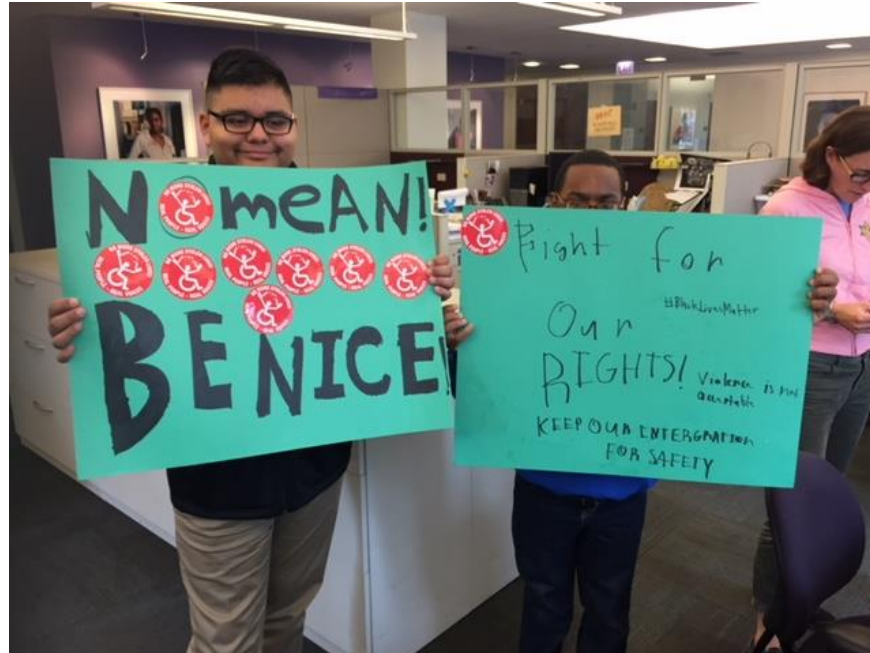


# What is Self-Advocacy?

Learning how to speak up for yourself

Making your own decisions about your life

Knowing your rights and responsibilities



# What is Disability Justice?



Disability justice is a movement that seeks equal rights and access for people with disabilities





# Disability Pride Parade & Service Day

DJMC members attend the Disability Pride Parade every year and participate in a volunteer service day



# DJMC One to One Mentoring

- Matches are required to meet twice a month for a total of at least 4-hours
- Outings can be a combination of community-based activities and attendance at the group mentoring session
- Mentees are transported by parents, PACE, or public transit - Mentors do not transport mentees
- We provide a calendar of local events for matches to choose from, or they can come up with their own outing ideas or contact program staff for additional ideas



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# DJMC Group Meetings

DJMC hosts a group meeting on the second Saturday of every month

- Matches can attend this as one of their monthly meetings
- Matches spend time together and with other matches in the program
- Groups feature guest speakers from the community on topics youth want to learn about
- DJMC group meetings take place at Access Living



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# Recruiting Youth – Who Can Join?

- Any young person with a disability that is 12-24 years old
- Any young person that is interested in forming a relationship with an adult mentor
- Any young person that can commit to spending 4 hours a month with their mentor
- Recruiting mentees: high schools, resource fairs, community events, churches, political offices, organizations that serve people with disabilities



# Recruiting Mentors – Who Can Join?

- Mentors must be at least 22-years old with or without a disability
- Must commit to 4-hours monthly to mentoring a young person
- Mentors complete an in-person interview, a DCFS child abuse check, a fingerprint background check, and reference check
- Mentors complete a state child abuse mandated reporter training/certification
- Are willing to complete 2-9 hours of annual volunteer training



# Match Support & Resources

At the initial match meeting both the mentor and mentee complete 'about me' forms as an icebreaker

Our program interns contact the mentors at least twice a month via phone and email to provide support.

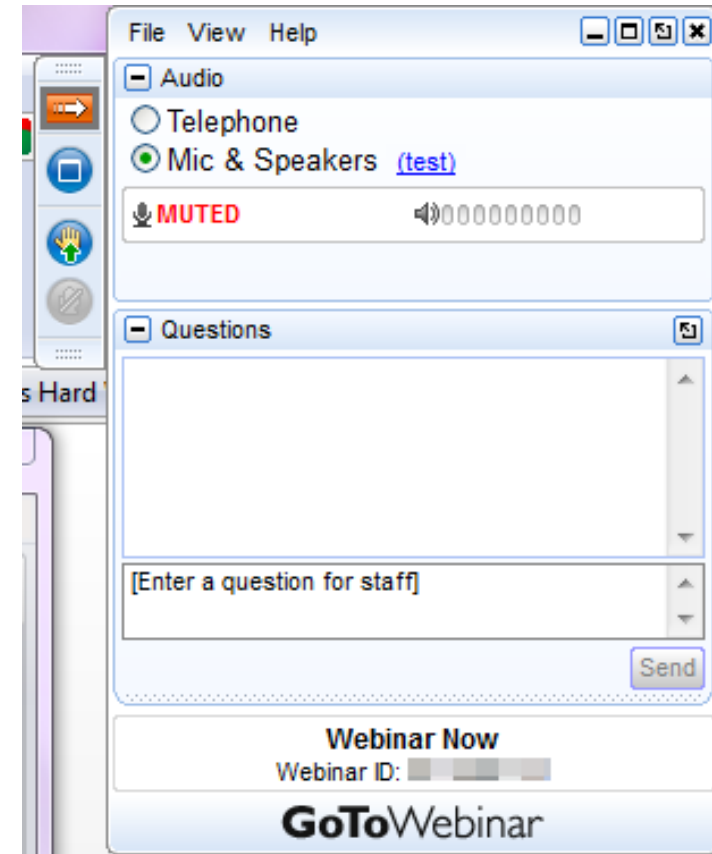
Our program coordinator contacts parents and mentees at least once monthly via phone.

DJMC sends out a monthly newsletter which features: a DJMC match of the month, group mentoring session information, contact information for the previous guest speaker, a disability justice/awareness video and additional free/ low-cost events in Chicago.



# Q&A

Type your questions in the question box:





# A Parent's Perspective

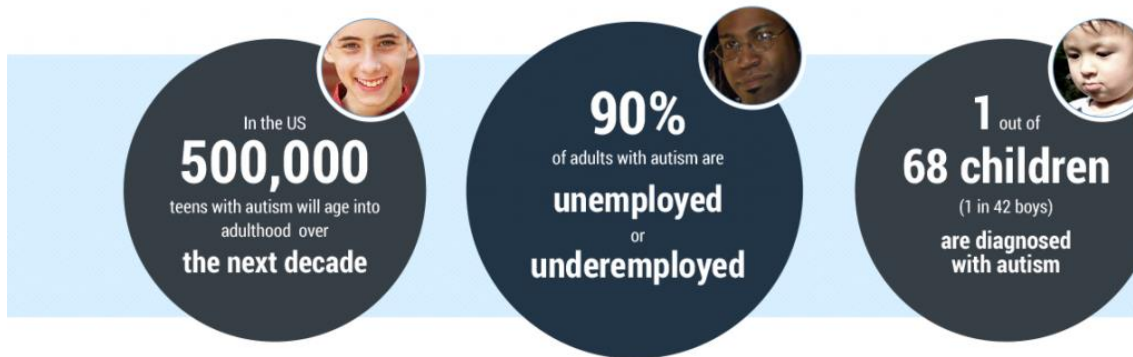
- Feeling Uncomfortable is GOOD for Everyone
- Fun and Laughs
- Unravelling the Wrong Ideas
- Well-Meaning Professionals
- Transportation
- Balancing the Dignity of Risk
- You All are Part of the Solution



# Teachability, LLC

Teachability is a social enterprise that solves the youth unemployment problem for people with invisible disabilities like autism. The mission lies in leading the untapped workforce into work.

An innovative Inverse Internship Program™ (IIP) offers young people real-world workforce training, then pairs them with unique internships in the for-profit, non-profit, social and governmental sectors through partnerships with employers.



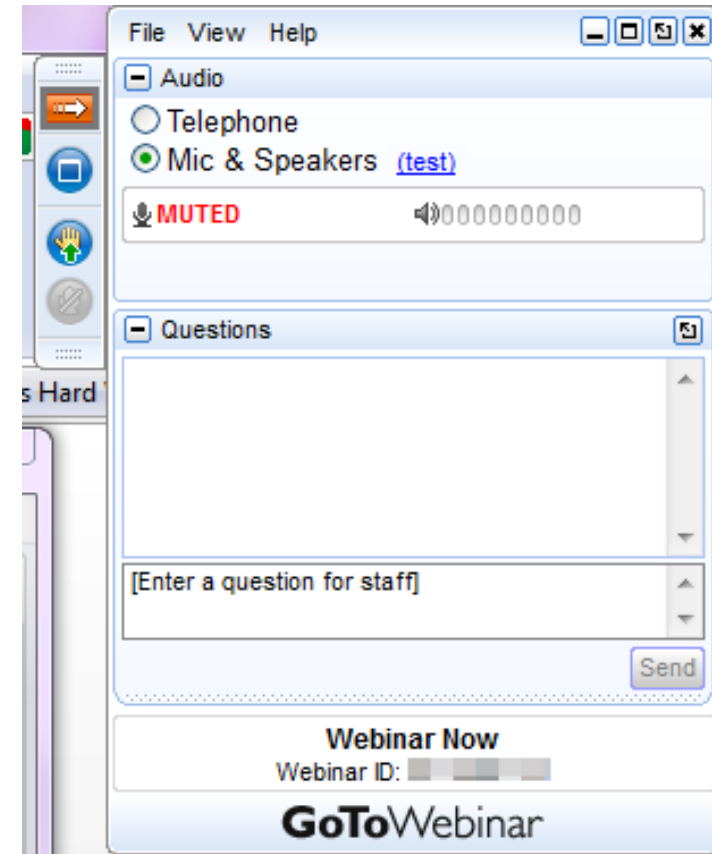
PROVIDING REAL WORLD  
WORK EXPERIENCES FOR  
YOUNG PEOPLE WITH  
INVISIBLE DISABILITIES

**Teachability**<sup>™</sup>  
real job connections and training



# Q&A

Type your questions in the question box:



# Program Resources & Tools

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<http://www.pyd.org/guidebooks.php> PYD Guidebooks

<http://www.pyd.org/webinars.php> PYD Webinars

<http://www.pyd.org/elearning-courses.php> PYD E-Learning  
Network and Courses

<http://www.pyd.org/national-disability-mentoring-coalition.php>  
National Disability Mentoring Coalition

# For More Information

**Access Living: Disability Justice  
Mentoring Collective**

<https://www.accessliving.org/>



**Partners for Youth with Disabilities**

<http://www.pyd.org/>



**PARTNERS™ FOR  
YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES**

**Teachability**

<https://teachability.org/>



**MENTOR Illinois**

[www.ilmentoring.org](http://www.ilmentoring.org)



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# Additional Resources



## **Affiliates**

Affiliates serve as a clearinghouse for training, resources, public awareness and advocacy. Find your local affiliate here:

<http://www.mentoring.org/our-work/our-affiliates/>

## **Mentoring Connector**

Recruit mentors by submitting your program to the Mentoring Connector

<https://connect.mentoring.org/admin>

## **National Mentoring Resource Center**

Check out the [OJJDP National Mentoring Resource Center](#) for no-cost evidence-based mentoring resources

# Remember...

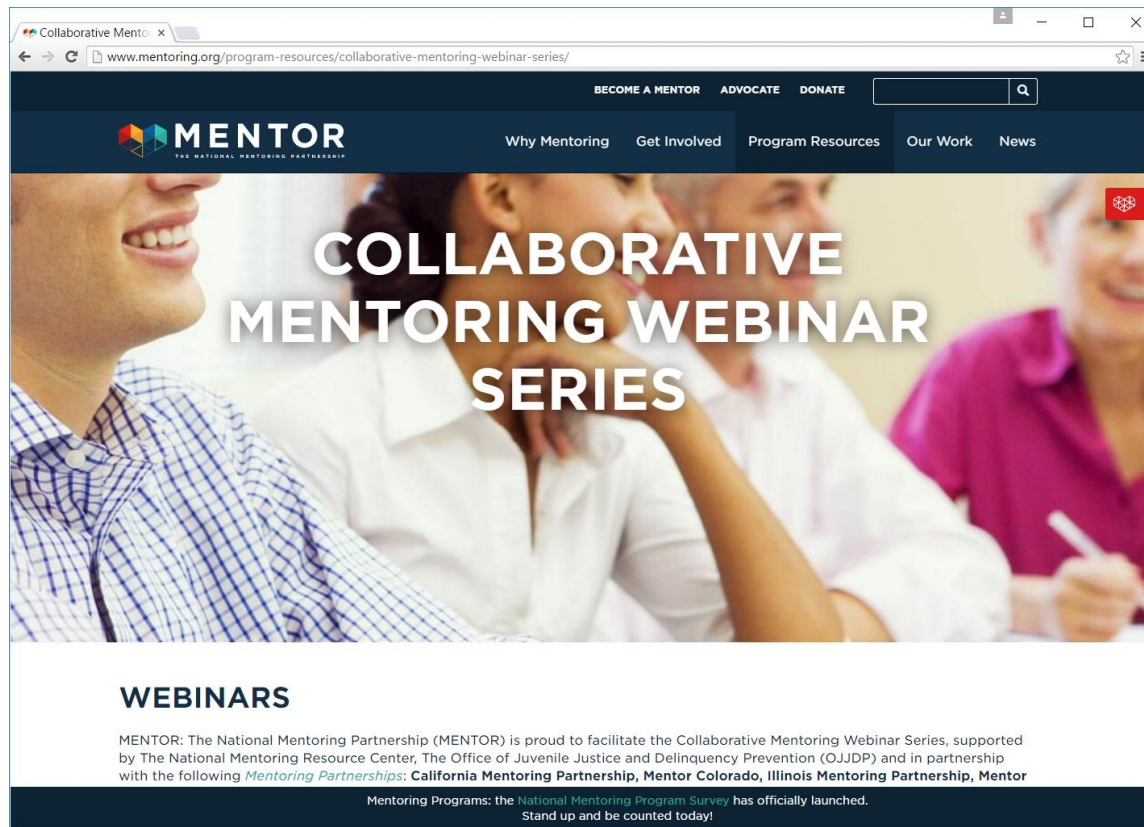
## After the webinar:

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- Everyone will get an email with information on how to download the slides, recording, and resources on the CMWS webpage on the MENTOR website:

[http://www.mentoring.org/program\\_resources/training\\_opportunities/collaborative\\_mentoring\\_webinar\\_series/](http://www.mentoring.org/program_resources/training_opportunities/collaborative_mentoring_webinar_series/)

# Stay Connected

- **Email us** at [collaborativewebinarseries@mentoring.org](mailto:collaborativewebinarseries@mentoring.org)
- **Tweet** with hashtag #MentoringWebinar
- **Visit our webpage** on the MENTOR website for past and upcoming webinars:



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# Join Us Next Month!



Mentoring American Indian and Alaska Native Youth  
August 16, 2018  
1 - 2:15 pm Eastern



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