

# Welcome

#### **Empowering Individuals to Rewrite Their Story**

Presented by Dr. Ashley Wellman, professor of Criminal Justice at TCU and Author

Thursday, October 1, 2020







#### **PURPOSE**

To transform the region into an inclusive community where individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) thrive.

#### MISSION

To bring stakeholders together to create an environment for the development of an efficient and accessible system of support for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.



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#### **Tuesday's Caregiver Education + Noon-1 pm**

**October 20 - Texans with Disabilities Vote. Know Your Voting Rights! October 27 - Healing after Grief, Loss and Trauma** 

#### **Monthly IDD Council Meeting** First Thursday of Each Month, 8:30 a.m. - 10 a.m.

November 5 - The Holidays may look Different

Follow us on social media for upcoming topics, events and networking opportunities

@IDDCouncil





**S**P

#### **Friday, December 4** First Methodist Church Mansfield 777 North Walnut Creek Drive



#### **Membership Driven**









Organizational Partners and many individual memberships

BOODWILL BOODWILL S.T.A.R.S.



th FORT WORTH ISD SPECIAL EDUCATION PTA





Families for Effective











The Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Council of Tarrant County

#### PLEASE JOIN US to Celebrate

#### OUR NEW INCLUSIVE Membership Menu

#### Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Council of Tarrant County

Building Awareness and Inclusion in our Community! IDD Council Membership Menu

We recognize and appreciate your support! The benefits and privileges described below are tokens of our appreciation and ways for you to be involved in building awareness and inclusion to our community. Your benefit year begins on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the month in which your dues are received, and it continues for 12 consecutive months.

All IDD Council members have access to monthly meetings, job fairs, transition fairs, and access to information and resources via our monthly newsletter, social media, and IDD Council website.

#### **ANNUAL BENEFITS AND PRIVILEGES TO MEMBERS**

\$5000+ (ALL BENEFITS FROM \$2500 LEVEL,	\$2500+ (All Benefits from \$1000	\$1000+ (ALL BENEFITS FROM \$500 LEVEL,
PLUS ALL OF THE FOLLOWING):	LEVEL, PLUS CHOOSE 1):	PLUS CHOOSE 2):
<ul> <li>Logo with link on website, ability to put our logo on their website with prior approval</li> <li>Keynote speaker at Celebrating YOU Employer Recognition luncheon OR another premier event</li> <li>Access to the benefits of the individual membership level for all families/employees affiliated with your organization</li> <li>Guest feature (e.g., ad, article, profile) in an issue of the IDD Council newsletter</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Organization's name on IDD Council website</li> <li>Tailored 1-hour training for your organization's staff or stakeholders (CEUs may be offered for an additional fee)</li> <li>Present at a Caregiver Education session</li> <li>Recognition in all IDD Council publications</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Monthly social media posts (1 image of your choice)</li> <li>Speaker spot at a monthly membership meeting</li> <li>Request of a custom topic for a Caregiver Education session; priority selection over non-member and non-custom requests</li> <li>Recognition in select IDD Council publications</li> </ul>

\$500+ (ALL BENEFITS FROM \$250 LEVEL, PLUS	\$250+ (ALL BENEFITS FROM \$25 LEVEL,	\$25 INDIVIDUAL MEMBER
CHOOSE 2):	PLUS CHOOSE 2):	
<ul> <li>Banner with logo at all 4 Making</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Organizational info table at one*</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Free training (non-CEU)</li> </ul>
Connections Disability Resource Fairs	of the following events: April	Collaboration and networking
OR at April Cool's Day	Cool's Day, CapeAbilities Job Fair,	among agencies, caregivers, and
Organizational info table at Sensory	a Caregiver Education session, OR	other advocates
Santa	a Making Connections event	<ul> <li>Recognition of membership on</li> </ul>
Permission to distribute information	Choose 1 topic for a monthly	website and newsletter
at events (e.g., in bags, or at the	Caregiver Education session from	Access to members-only portal
doorway)	a pre-set list of topics. Priority	with a resource directory and
	selection over non-member	video/audio recordings of select
	requests	presentations
	* May select two organizational table	
	events as benefit option.	

...additional customized benefits available a-la-carte to meet your organization's needs!

CEUs may be offered for an additional fee at individual events. Members at all levels will receive a discount on CEUs.



### Welcome New Members!

- Tiffany Arnold
- Juanita Monturo
- Rebecca Swift
- JPS Hospital District (Premier Partner)
- Deborah Norris
- Karen Donegan
- Your name belongs here! <u>Membership Form</u>







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### **Dr. Ashley Wellman**

Dr. Ashley Wellman has been a scholar specializing in homicide, victimology, and trauma since 2008. Her work has focused on grief, loss, and recovery following an experience with violent victimization. She has published over 30 academic articles, spoken at national and international topics, and frequently serves as a media expert on these topics. As a widow and single mother, she was forced to rebuild and redefine her life. Now, as author of the My Friend Fresno children's book series, she is creating a life full of magic for her family while spreading a message of love, acceptance and friendship to all those who interact with her business.



# EmPOWERing Our Children

Dr. Ashley Wellman

### How do we build empowerment\*?

- 1. Increase Life Experiences
- 2. Build Self-Esteem (self-care to serving others)
- 3. Develop Assertiveness (how to say what you need/feel)
- 4. Enhance Capabilities
- 5. Provide Choices
- 6. Maximize Support

\*IDD Guidelines



#### The Power of Words

Disabled  $\rightarrow$  Differently abled Victim  $\rightarrow$  Survivor/Thriver Lost  $\rightarrow$  Found Broken  $\rightarrow$  Rebuilt Hurt  $\rightarrow$  Healed



### The Power of Story

#### When we know how to talk about our circumstances:

- We reclaim power → Empowerment "Scared someone would find out"
- Builds context for others  $\rightarrow$  Understanding
- Others find similarities in their own story  $\rightarrow$  Connection
- Allows for internal understanding and processing  $\rightarrow$  Peace
- Releases the shame/secrecy  $\rightarrow$  Confidence/Healing
- Provides vocabulary and articulation/vocalization → Advocacy for self/others
- Creates a path to turn pain into purpose Change "in spite of..." → "because of..."

## The Power of YOU

# Nothing's Actually Impossible

### Your Superpowers



Acknowledge weaknesses/challenges AND strengths

- Validate the struggles
- Create empowerment in abilities

### The Power of Community

You are not alone

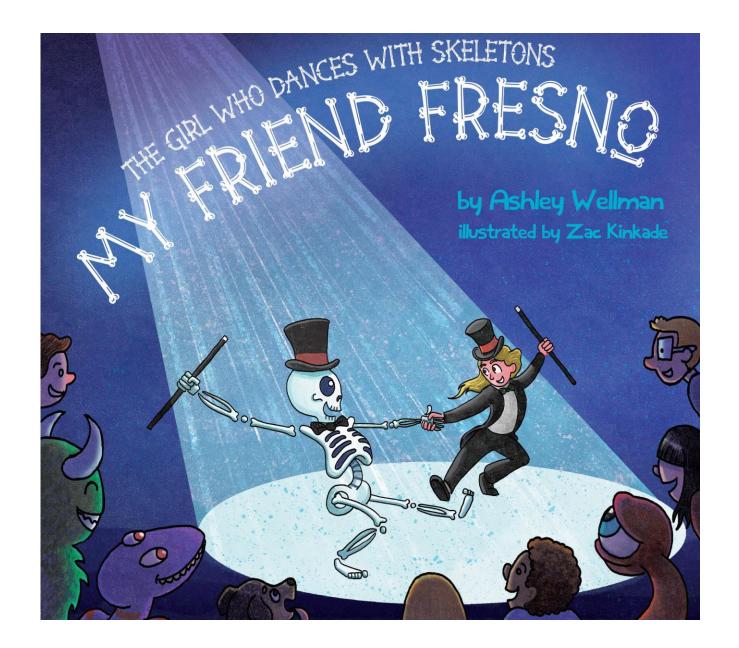
Find your tribe Online In person Conventions Programs Support groups

Resources from other families of what works... what doesn't



### Famous People to Identify With...

- •Actor/Comedian Howie Mandel (OCD)
- •Model Madeline Stuart, Actor Zack Gottsagen (Down Syndrome)
- •Track Olympian Marla Lee Runyan (blind)
- •Influencer/Activist Rikki Poynter (deaf)
- •Steven Spielberg, award-winning film director (ADHD)
- •Temple Grandin, animal scientist (Autism Spectrum Disorder)
- •Baxter Humby, kickboxer (amputated hand)
- •Football player Tim Tebow, Virgin CEO Richard Branson, actor Henry Winkler, and singer Cher (dyslexia)
- •Micah Fowler and Zach Anner (Cerebral Palsy)



#### The Power of Creativity

Identify with: Characters Stories Lessons

Don't see yourself???

# Find us

**The Girl Who Dances with Skeletons: My Friend Fresno** Follow us on Social Media: @MyFriendFresno Shop & Play: <u>www.myfriendfresno.com</u>

Dr. Ashley Wellman www.ashleywellman.com

drashleywellman@gmail.com

Twitter: @DrAshleyWellman



### Thank you!

**Rita Stevenson Executive Director** Rita@IDDCouncil.org 817.569.4852





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