

Welcome to the September IFSP
Coordinated Council Meeting!
**We will begin at 6:30 PM. While you
wait....**

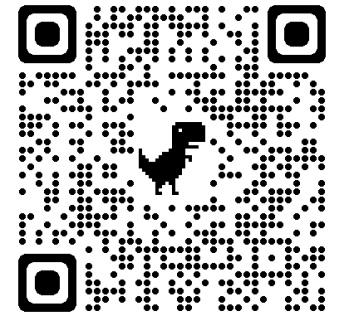


Visit the My Life, My
Community Funding page:
[https://tinyurl.com/mlmc-
funding](https://tinyurl.com/mlmc-funding)

Annual Survey
of Needs



IFSP-Funding
Training Video



Welcome to the September IFSP
Coordinated Council Meeting!



Advocacy

Featuring a presentation from Leslie Mehta of [pRETTy Brooke](#)



Agenda



- **Welcome & Ground Rules**
- **What is IFSP?**
- **LEAP** – Molly Dellinger Wray
- **ALLY Alliance** – Brittney Lee, Shawn Kirk, and Jesse Monroe
- **Journey to pRETTY Brooke: How I Became a Self-Advocate** – Leslie Mehta
- **Regional Breakouts**
- **Questions and Answers**
- **Council Business & Adjourn**

** If you need technical assistance, email IFSPCommunity@dbhds.virginia.gov! **

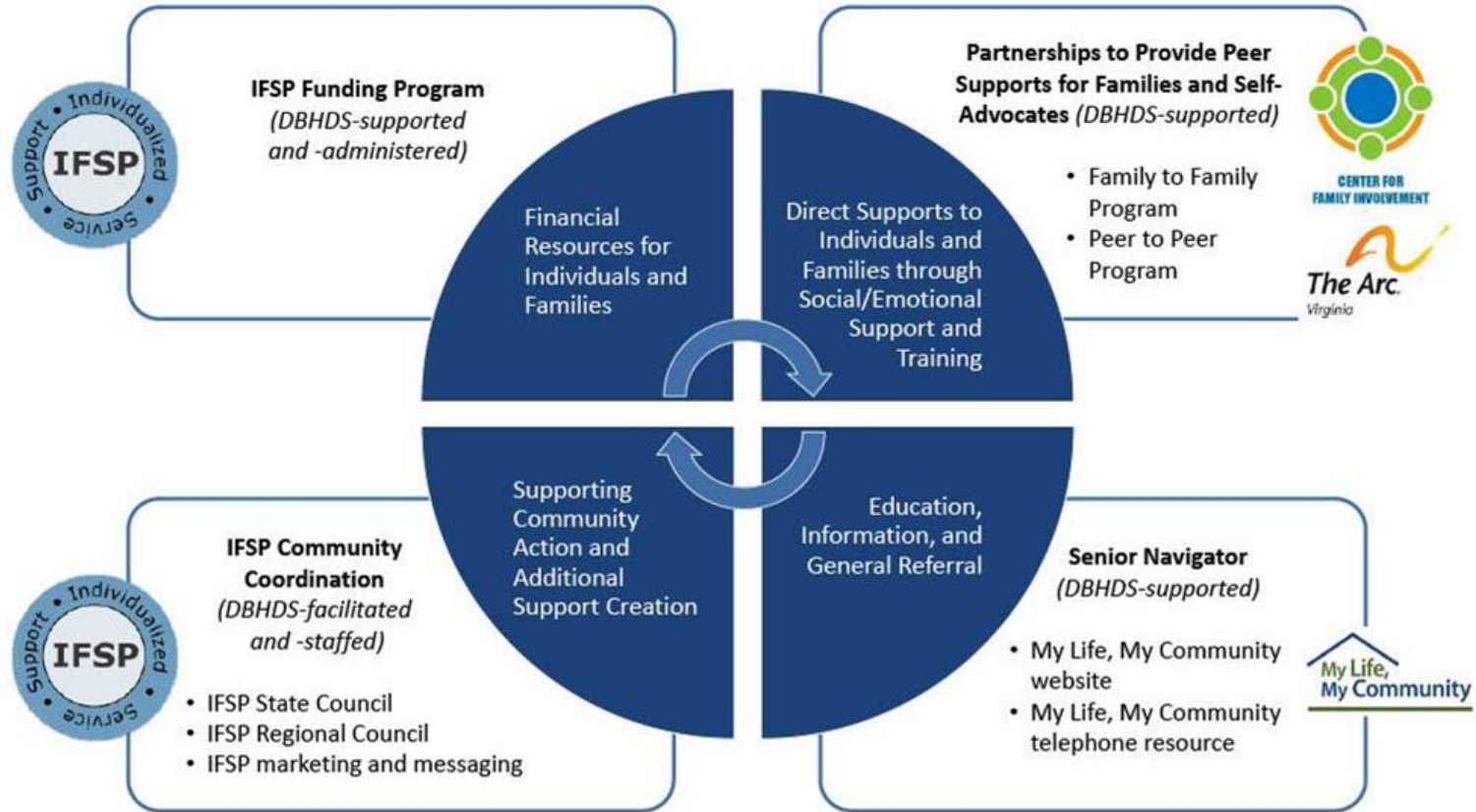
Ground Rules



- **Tonight's main session is being recorded.**
- Please put your questions in the chat, we will answer questions at the end of the meeting, after the breakouts.
- This meeting is for the IFSP Regional Councils. If you have IFSP-Funding related questions, please visit the My Life, My Community website's IFSP-Funding page:
<https://tinyurl.com/mlmc-funding>
- Remember that tonight's meeting is public, so please refrain from sharing personal information.

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What is IFSP?



What is IFSP?



IFSP Funding Program
(DBHDS-supported and -administered)

Financial Resources for Individuals and Families

Partnerships to Provide Peer Supports for Families and Self-Advocates (DBHDS-supported)

- Family to Family Program
- Peer to Peer Program



CENTER FOR FAMILY INVOLVEMENT



Direct Supports to Individuals and Families through Social/Emotional Support and Training

Supporting Community Action and Additional Support Creation

Education, Information, and General Referral

Senior Navigator
(DBHDS-supported)

- My Life, My Community website
- My Life, My Community telephone resource



IFSP Community Coordination
(DBHDS-facilitated and -staffed)

- IFSP State Council
- IFSP Regional Council
- IFSP marketing and messaging



You are here!





Leadership for Empowerment and Abuse Prevention (LEAP)

Molly Dellinger-Wray, VCU PPD





Leadership for Empowerment and Abuse Prevention



LEAP

Molly Dellinger-Wray

mdwray@vcu.edu

September 16, 2021

Coordinated Council Meeting



2021 Coordinated Council Meeting



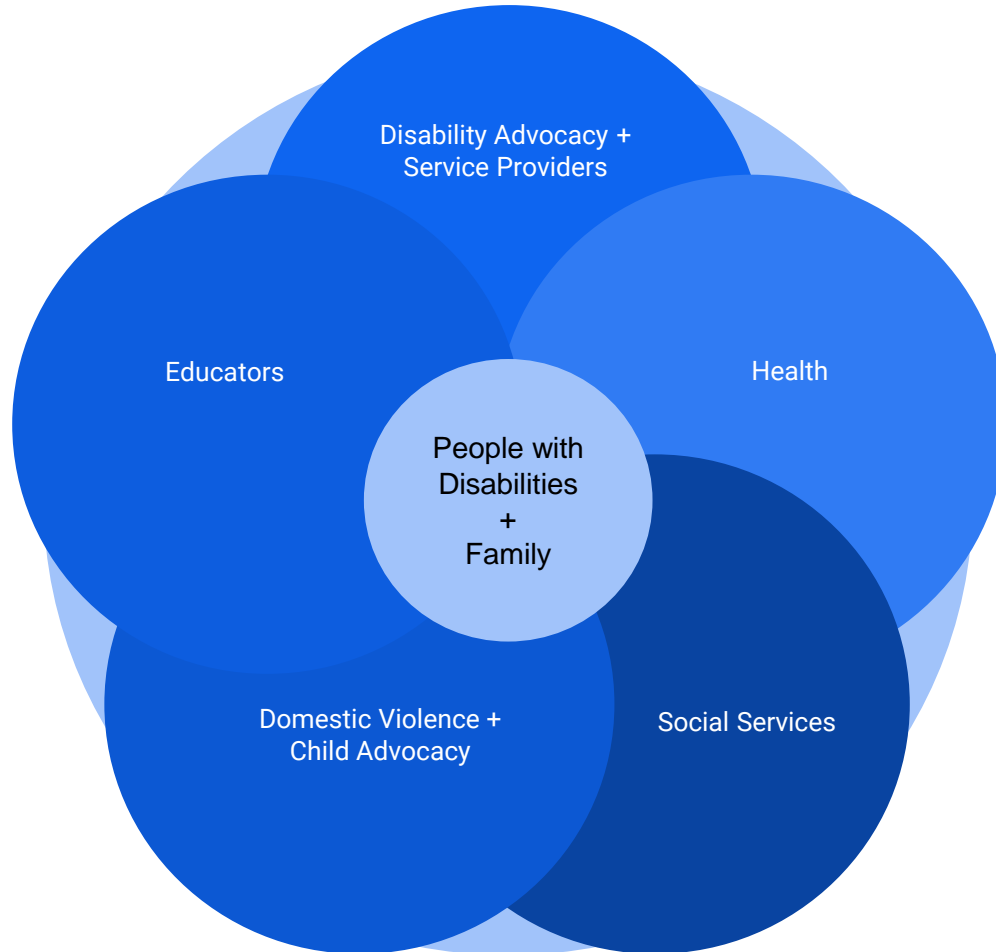
Why LEAP?

People with disabilities are at an **increased risk of violence** when compared with typically developing population (Breiding & Armour, 2015; Hughes et al., 2011).

Prevalence estimates for experiencing a form of abuse during one's lifetime are a high of **90% for women with disabilities and up to 87% for men with disabilities** (Hughes, et al., 2011).



Curriculum Team



FORMAT OF THE TRAINING



→ Four sessions about 90 minutes each

→ Groups of 10-13 participants


→ Taught by person with a disability and a co-trainer


→ Prospective trainers observed LEAP, went through training sessions, then co-led sessions while being observed


LEAP: Leadership for Empowerment and Abuse Prevention





POWER STATEMENT

 I AM **STRONG**.

 MY FEELINGS ARE **IMPORTANT**.

 I DESERVE TO FEEL **SAFE**.

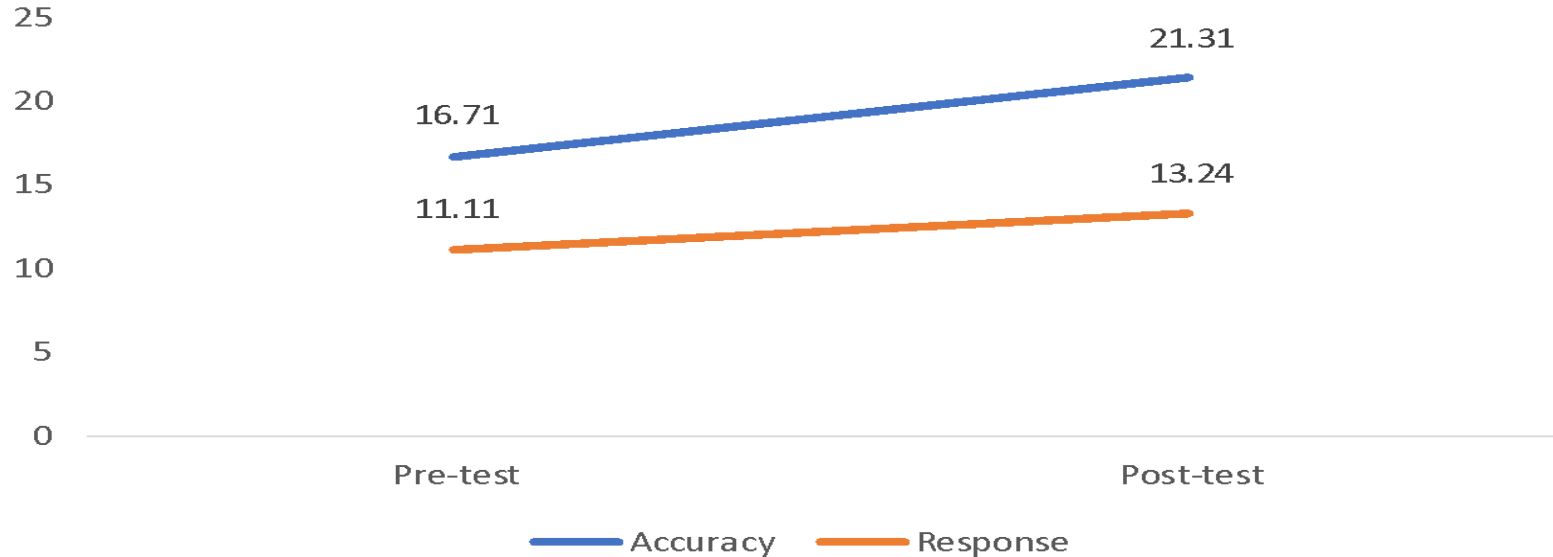
 I DESERVE **RESPECT**.

 LEAP

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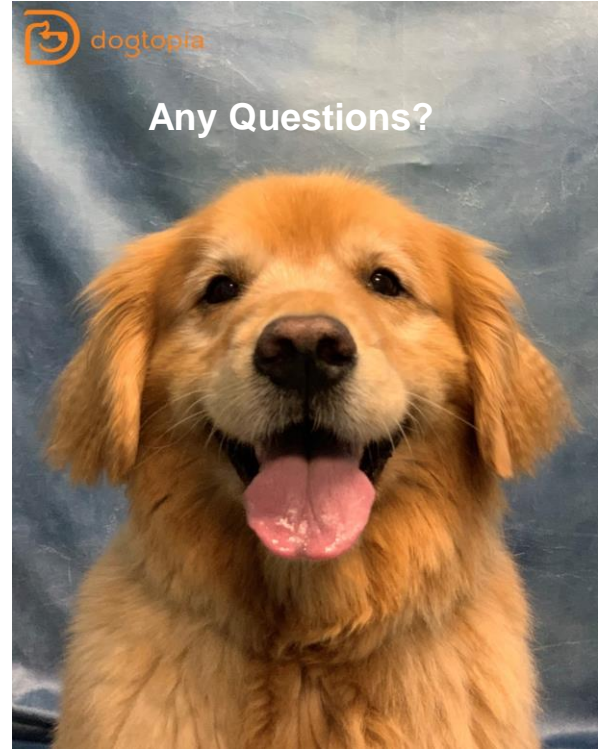
Results: Accuracy of “Why is the relationship healthy/unhealthy?” and Response of “What should the person do next?”

Avg. Total Scores for Accuracy & Response



For more information,

Molly Dellinger-Wray
mdwray@vcu.edu





Shawn Kirk, Brittney Lee, & Jesse Monroe

Tonight's Speaker: Leslie Mehta



Leslie Mehta is an attorney and Chief of Staff and Counsel to the CEO at the Richmond Metropolitan Transportation Authority. She has nearly two decades of legal and advocacy experience. She holds a Bachelor's degree in English Literature from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a J.D. from Howard University School of Law.

Leslie was appointed to IFSP State Council in 2019 and served until 2020. In 2020, Leslie launched www.prettybrooke.com where she interviews politicians, executives, thought leaders, and parents about disability issues. Only a year after its launch, pRETTy Brooke was nominated as a 2021 Disability Law Center of Virginia disABILITY Impact Award nominee. Leslie is also a board member at the International Rett Syndrome Foundation and the Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU Family Advisory Network ("CHoRFAN").

Leslie's daughter, Brooke, was diagnosed with Rett Syndrome in 2017. She passed away from Rett Syndrome complications in March 2021 at the tender age of 5. She also has a 2 year old daughter, Blair. Leslie, her husband Tarun, and Blair live in the suburbs of Richmond, Virginia.





Journey to pRETTy Brooke: How I Became a Self-Advocate

LESLIE MEHTA

disAbilities Do Not Define Me

Brooke and family



Background

- ▶ Lawyer
 - ▶ Howard University School of Law
 - ▶ Civil rights firm/Non profit for California consumers/Legal Director ACLU of Virginia
 - ▶ Advocacy
 - ▶ IFSP State Council
 - ▶ International Rett Syndrome Foundation board member
 - ▶ Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU, Family Advisory Network

Brooke's Journey

- ▶ Born in 2015.
- ▶ Within months, noticed she did not meet milestones.
- ▶ Discussions with pediatrician. Pediatrician recommended county testing.
- ▶ Discovered developmental delays.
- ▶ Worked with speech, physical, and occupational therapists.
- ▶ Rett Syndrome diagnosis in 2017.
- ▶ Passed away in 2021.
- ▶ Continue to advocate.

Research

- ▶ Educated myself: Researched Rett Syndrome
 - ▶ Prognosis, Skill Sets/Limitations
 - ▶ Specialty Clinics
 - ▶ Organizations
 - ▶ Funding sources
 - ▶ Medical equipment
 - ▶ Medicaid
 - ▶ Legal/educational rights

Research, cont'd

- ▶ Educating others about Rett Syndrome and October being Rett Syndrome Awareness Month
 - ▶ Medical professionals
 - ▶ Agencies that denied Brooke services
 - ▶ State senators/delegates
 - ▶ Congressional representatives
 - ▶ Teachers/Daycare Providers (special needs advocates for IEP)

Advocacy: pRETTy Brooke

- ▶ Product reviews
- ▶ Interviews (CEOs, authors, politicians/leaders, special needs teachers, medical professionals)
- ▶ www.prettybrooke.com
- ▶ YouTube Channel
- ▶ Facebook page
- ▶ Speaking engagements
- ▶ Disability Law Center of VA 2021 disABILITY Impact Award Nominee for 2021

Thank you, Leslie!



Now it is time for the Regional Breakouts!

But don't forget to let us know what you think!

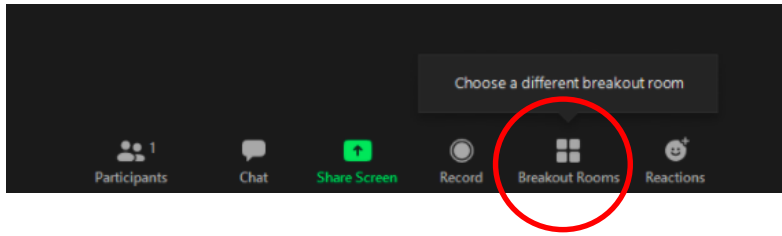
- Please scan the QR code to fill out the Satisfaction Survey!
- You can also click the link that is being shared in the chat.

THANK YOU!

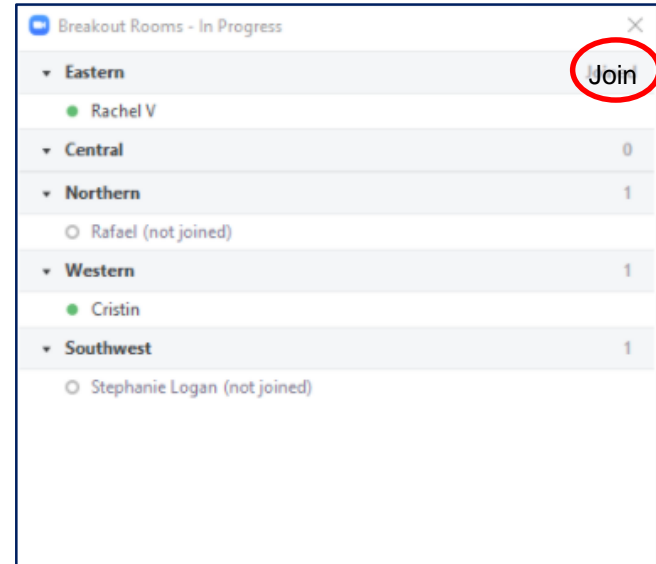
How to Join a Breakout



At the bottom of your screen, click “Breakout Rooms”:

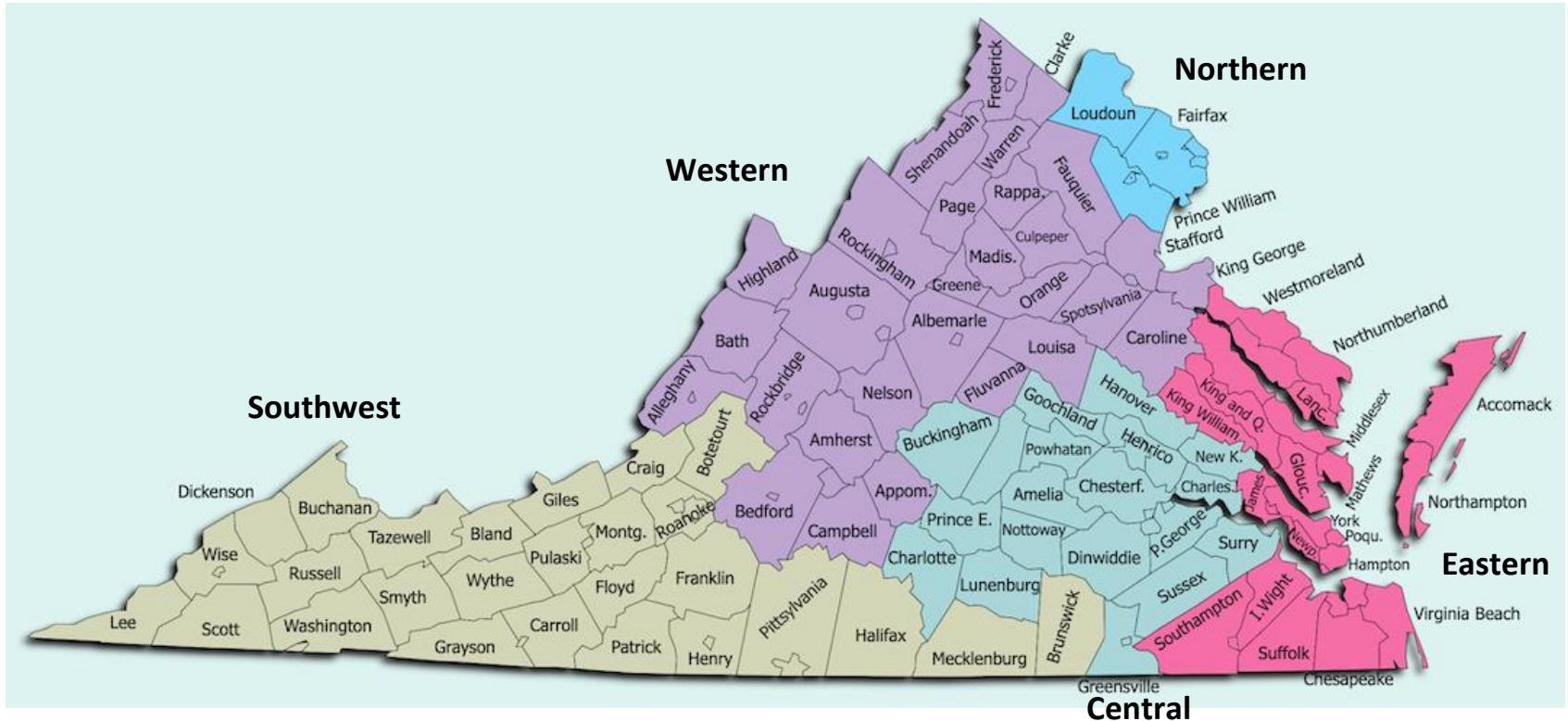


Then, pick “join” for your region:



Please select the breakout room for where you live!

If you aren't sure or need assistance, stay in the main room and IFSP staff will help you pick the correct breakout!



** If you need technical assistance, email IFSPCommunity@dbhds.virginia.gov! **

Thank you!



To our introduction speakers, **Molly Dellinger-Wray** ([LEAP](#)) and **Brittney, Shawn, and Jesse** ([the ALLY Alliance](#))!

To our main session speaker, **Leslie Mehta** ([pRETTY Brooke](#))!

And to each of our Regional Experts...

- Central: **Alex Campbell**, self-advocate, executive director at Campbell Advocacy
- Eastern: **Jesse Monroe**, board member, The Arc of Virginia; self-advocate and member, [ALLY Alliance](#) and Our Voices
- Northern: **Teresa Champion**, cofounder and secretary/treasurer, [Virginia Autism Project](#)
- Southwestern: **Patti Cettin**, executive director, [Taking Action for Special Kids \(TASK\)](#)
- Western: **Tonya Milling**, executive director, [The Arc of Virginia](#)

Before You Go ...



Let us know what you think!

- Please scan the QR code to fill out the Satisfaction Survey
- You can also click the link that is being shared in the chat.

THANK YOU!



Thank You!

Follow IFSP on Facebook:

[facebook.com/IFSPCommunity](https://www.facebook.com/IFSPCommunity)



Virginia Department of
Behavioral Health &
Developmental Services

