## Rural Institute

RECERUTAL

## The Magic of Photos and Web-based Storytelling to Raise Rural IL Awareness

Rayna Sage and Lillie Greiman, RTC:Rural at the University of Montana

### Funding statement

 The contents of this presentation were developed under a grant from the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR grant number: 90DPKT0005).
NIDILRR is a Center within the Administration for Community Living (ACL), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The contents do not necessarily represent the policy of NIDILRR, ACL, or HHS, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.

RTC:Rura

earch & Training Cer

## Overview of session activities

- Introductions
  - Sign in sheet
  - Who is new to APRIL!? Who is an old hat!?
- Overview
  - RCLD
  - Photovoice
  - Story-mapping
- Let's tell the story of APRIL together!
  - Breakout groups to review and discuss photos
  - Group session to review and select photos
  - Build the story-map

Slide 3

RTC:Rural

Research & Training Center

## Rural Community Living Development (RCLD)

- In partnership with APRIL and an amazing group of rural IL experts (rural service CIL staff from across the country) we:
  - Developed a Rural Outreach Toolkit (visit our vendor table to learn more!)
  - Engaged in participatory evaluation of the process using photovoice and story-mapping
  - Are establishing a rural outreach peer network to continue to support each other in bringing the magic of IL to our rural communities.



RTC:Rural

esearch & Training Center

### What is photovoice!?

- An interactive way to gather and weave together visual images and stories from several stakeholders around an important issue or needed change
- Photovoice uses participants' (consumers, community members) own images and voices to gather information and communicate an experience
- Photovoice has been used across the world to advocate for underrepresented and marginalized people and communities
- With photovoice, the participants have control over the process. Their photos, words, and voices tell the story

RTC:Rural

search & Training Cente

## What is story-mapping?

- <u>Storymap.com</u> is a free and accessible web-based resource for making webpages that can incorporate photos, audio, text, and mapping to share a story about an event, a community or an experience.
- Skills needed:
  - You do not need to be a web design professional
  - Drag and drop/user friendly
  - Upload visual and audio content
  - Be inquisitive and trouble shoot
- Review the <u>RCLD story map</u> for inspiration!



Rural Institute

Slide 6

RTC:Rura

search & Training Cent

# How you can use this at your CIL and in your community

- Share the story of your CIL
  - Work with staff to share information and stories about the work they do and why they do it!
- Share the impact of your work
  - Bring together a group of consumers to share about the impacts your CIL programs have had in their lives
    - Transportation, housing, IL skills classes, peer support programs
- Share the story of your community outreach
  - Bring together community partners to share about how they serve their communities and why they do the work they do
  - Ask us about community resource mapping!!

RTC:Rural

esearch & Training Center

### Let's do photovoice together!!

- Break out into four/five groups (to the best of our abilities)
- Spend some time reviewing the photos together
  - Text descriptions are on the back of each photo
  - Read the descriptions to each other or ask for us to come by!
- Identify 3-4 photos that speak to you about the "Magic of IL" and the "Magic of APRIL"
  - Why these photos? What drew you to them?
  - What do these photos say about your experiences?
- Take some notes, we will come back together to discuss!

RTC:Rural

esearch & Training Cente

Small groups select photos (20 minutes)

**P**: Describe your PHOTO.

What is HAPPENING in your photo?

U: Why did you OBSERVE this?

T: What does this TELL us about your work?

U: What learning OPPORTUNITIES does this picture provide?





RTC:Rural

esearch & Training Cente

## Full group review of top photos (20 minutes)

- **P**: Describe your PHOTO.
- What is HAPPENING in your photo?
- Use Why did you OBSERVE this?
- T: What does this TELL us about your work?
- U: What learning OPPORTUNITIES does this picture provide?





Slide 10

**RTC:Rura** 

esearch & Training Cente

## The magic of APRIL...

<u>Notes</u>

**Themes** 

Slide 11

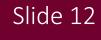
RTC:Rural Research & Training Center on Disability in Rural Communities

## Sharing the magic....

- Let's build a story map together!
- Sign in on the sheet to make sure you get the final version!



Rural Institute



**RTC:Rura** 

esearch & Training Cen

## Wrapping up....

- Do you think you might use these tools at your CIL?
  - How?
- What kind of technical assistance do you think you would need?
- Other thoughts or comments!?

- How to get involved in the next phase of this project....
- Visit our table!
- Contact us!
  - <u>Rayna.sage@umontana.edu</u>
  - Lillie.Greiman@umontana.edu

**RTC:Rural** 

Research & Training Cente