



Breaking Barriers: Life Beyond Labels 2025 Conference Schedule

Time	Location	Title	Presenters
9:00 – 10:00	Main room	Welcome & Keynote - Ramonda Olaloye	
10:00 – 10:15		Break	
10:15 am 12:00 pm	Sparks	Spanish - Transiciones en la educación especial de prekínder a preparatoria	Maria Rangel
		Caregiver Burnout	Tripp & Tonya Robertson
		Ableism 101	Glenna Hayes
		Connecting & Collaborating When There are Both IDD & Mental Health Care Needs	Tara Hare
		Living in a Supported Living House that My Parents Set Up. Feeling Empowered with a Disability	Selig Andrew
		Self-care.... What is the Amygdala Hijack & Why Does it Matter	Erica Drake
		Understanding School Behaviors: Brain Insights & Practical Strategies for success	Erin Taylor
		Positive Behavior Support: Practical Strategies for Better Days	Stephanie Hunter & Tawny Allen
		Self-Advocacy Guide to DD Services (Panel)	Ryley Newport
		Empowering Yourself & Your Words in 2025 & Beyond	Stefany Cunningham
	Biology of Burnout: Understanding & Overcoming Overwhelm in Caretaking	Amy Yillik	
12:00 – 1:15	Main room	Lunch & Keynote - Alva Gardner	
		Award Presentations, Raffle Part 1	
1:15 – 2:15	Sparks	Spanish -Educación Especial Curso Introductorio 101	Damaris
		Connection, Community, Collaboration: Working Together for Employment Success	Erica Drake & Kelsey Hargrove
		Person-Centered Facilitation & Self-Advocacy.... Alva Gardner (Key Note)	Alva Gardner
		Doing Your Best in a Job Interview	Margie Blackmore
		SSA Disability Process - Presenting & Answering all Questions	Ari Halpern
		High Desert Self Advocates: Growing Stronger & Time to Thrive!	Ryley Newport
		Breaking Barriers with SEL: Supporting Students with Big Feelings in After-School Spaces	Karen Bares
		Inclusive Dance & Creative Movement	Stacey Koch
		Social - Sexual Supports: The Unspoken need of Love, Sex & Relationships for People with Disabilities	John Griffiths/ Laddie Read
		There's Nothing We Can't Do: Insights from the Author of "Down Syndrome Loud: 20+ Stories About Disability & Determination"	Melissa Hart
		Moving From Awareness to Acceptance: Celebrate Neurodiversity! (MFATA)	Alex Kimmel
	How to get help with Special Education	ODE/CODSN/FACT	
2:15 – 2:30		Break	
2:30 – 3:30	Sparks	Spanish - Metas de transición en el IEP: una hoja de ruta hacia el futuro	Maria Rangel
		Pathways to Success: Understanding Supported Employment	Jennifer Knapp
		Empowerment Through Advocacy	John Griffiths +2
		Artificial Intelligence- Your Ultimate Collaborator, Creative Partner and Unexpected Friend	Michael Boll
		How I created the Kid Patrol from My Memories	Robby Dishner
		The Fitness Industry's Forgotten Population	Ryan Lockard
		Introduction and History of IDD	Erica Drake & John Merrick
		My Journey to America & My Path to Self Advocacy	Fengxian Yuan
		Visualizing Your Day: How Visual Prompts Can Lead to Stronger Independence and Autonomy	Susan Traugh & Matthew Traugh
		Possibilities!: When Supports, Independence/Interdependence, Safety, & Self-Determination All Come Together	Alex Kimmel
		Disability Awareness - Japan/ Nonprofit vision for Madras	Sam Robinson
3:35 – 4:00	Main room	Closing & Raffle Part 2	