

2025 Advocacy Training Boot Camp is proudly sponsored by Microsoft



Time	Topic	Speaker(s)
8:00 AM - 8:05 AM	Welcome	Jim Hudson <i>NDSC Executive Director, OH</i> Jessie Smart <i>NDSC Self-Advocate Council, MS</i>
8:05 AM - 9:15 AM	Engaging Policymakers with Your Story Empowering Advocacy: Harnessing AI for Impact Enabling Connections: How You Can Build & Sustain Relationships with Elected Officials	Jawanda Mast <i>NDSC Grassroots Advocacy Manager, KS</i> Hannah LaCour <i>NDSC Self-Advocate Board Member, LA</i> Julie Gerhard Rothholz <i>Parent Advocate, PA</i> Evan Rothholz <i>Self-Advocate, PA</i> Alecia Talbott <i>Down Syndrome Association of Middle Tennessee Executive Director, TN</i>
9:15 AM - 9:35 AM	Five Ways to Engage Diverse Populations	Magaly Diaz <i>NDSC Multicultural Coordinator, TX</i> Crystal Lottenberry <i>Black Down Syndrome Association Founder, TX</i>
9:35 AM - 9:55 AM	Tips and Tricks for Using Social Media in Advocacy	Jillian Benfield <i>Parent Advocate and Author, FL</i>
9:55 AM - 10:05 AM	BREAK	
10:05 AM - 10:30 AM	Role Play Meeting with Elected Officials: Relationship Builders & Breakers <i>Role play scenarios featuring self-advocates and advocates.</i>	Patricia Ehrle <i>Parent Advocate, LA</i> Leah Jose <i>NDSC Policy Intern, MD</i> Self-Advocates: Craig Blackburn (LA), Kellyn Donahoe (OH), Paige Faucheux (LA), Petra Mark (MI), Rachel Mast (KS), Liz Romanick (ND), Stormie Zanfordino (MD)
10:30 AM - 11:00 AM	State Legislator's Interview	Stephanie Smith Lee <i>NDSC Policy & Advocacy Co-Director, Moderator, NC</i> Representative Joe Moody (D-TX-87) <i>Texas House Speaker Pro Tempore with introduction by his sibling Melissa Moody, Self-Advocate</i>
11:00AM - 11:30AM	Next Steps Q&A	Heather Sachs <i>NDSC Policy & Advocacy Co-Director, MD</i>