Breakout 1

What’s Love Got to Do with It? Everything

There are a plethora of misconceptions about autistics and our relationships, be they romantic, platonic, or sexual. Utilizing the personal experiences of an autistic adult as well as empirical sources, this session will dismantle those myths and explore numerous ways that love impacts, intersects, and influences various aspects of our lives and affects our day to day functioning.

Breakout 2

Born This Way: My Life as an Autistic Parent

Led by an autistic parent of autistic and non-autistic children, this informative and interactive session will provide participants with an in-depth view of autistic parenting and opportunities in order to build meaningful connections with autistic and neurodiverse families.

Gail Godwin

Shared Support Maryland, Inc.

Gail Godwin is the Founder of Shared Support Maryland, Inc. For over 28 years, she has been an advocate in collaboration with people with disabilities & has worked in service provision organizations at a direct support staff, middle manager, administrator, and in training & development. Gail is a Founder and Officer of the global Alliance of Citizen Directed Supports. She served 10 years as a Member of the Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council on the Executive and Cross Cutting Issues Committee. She also served 10 years as a Board Member of The Maryland Association of Community Services and is a graduate and faculty member of the Leadership Institute Consortium on Developmental Disabilities. She is the co-founder of the New York Downstate Person Centered Consortium and a Founder and Officer of the Alliance for Citizen Directed Supports. Gail’s extensive experience is in Self Directed Service Provision, Positive Supports, Person Directed Planning & Individualized Supports Organizational Development.