Sometimes our light goes out. But it is blown again into flame by an encounter with another human being. Each of us owes the deepest thanks to those who have kindled this light.

Albert Schweitzer
Four Score and Seven Years Ago...

Our fathers brought forth upon this continent a new land, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the purpose that all men (and women) are created equal.

Abraham Lincoln
Gettysburg Address
All People May Be Created Equal, But...

We are each born into different circumstances...

with different amounts of social capital.
The World Bank defines social capital as:

“The social relationships...that enable people to coordinate action to achieve desired goals.”
The baby born in Philadelphia into a large Italian family.

The baby born in the Bronx to a single mom who recently immigrated from Haiti.

The baby born in a commune in California.

The baby born in Chicago into a large Hispanic extended family.

The baby born to an Anglo couple in Nebraska with no family for 300 miles.
My friend Linda
From Bridges in the Community to Social Capital

How can we help individuals with disabilities build their social capital to enhance their lives?
My Family
League bowling has decreased 40%.
Individual bowlers have increased 10%.
Civic group membership has decreased.
Volunteer hours decreased.

Voter turnout has decreased.
Church attendance has decreased.
Union membership has decreased.

Social Capital is declining.
People are becoming disconnected.
According to Pierce Bourdieu...

“Social capital are the advantages and opportunities that accrue to people through their membership in groups.”

Social Capital in the Creation of Human Capital
My Friend Theresa...
Understanding College Social Games
According to Robert Putnam...

Social Capital = Reciprocity

If you do something for someone, they are more likely to return the favor.
Helping Neighbors
Social Capital

People helping people in long-term relationships.

- Trade visits.
- Run errands.
- Do favors for one another.

Most people can manage 5–10 strong relationships.
Talking Email
Advantages of Social Capital

Friends you can confide in.
A neighbor who watches your house.
An uncle who gets you a job.
A ride to the grocery store.
Ideas and information.

Richard Florida
The Rise of the Creative Class
Communities use social capital to channel diversity and creativity and achieve stability.

People helping People
Social Capital
first appeared in print in 1916.

The World Bank defines social capital as:

“The social relationships...that enable people to coordinate action to achieve desired goals.”
In order to develop Social Capital, people need:

- Space and time to connect.
- Time to demonstrate trust.
- A means to effectively communicate.
- An opportunity for genuine participation - NOT MERE PRESENCE.

Cohen & Prusak
In Good Company
How Social Capital Makes Organizations Work
My New House Shower
Soviet Union
an example of a state unable to take full advantage of its immense resources because it lacks social institutions.

Focus Group: Baltic States Family Support

- Capacity for choice.
- Learn to speak for ourselves.
- Access to information.
- Learn to dream.
- Learn to connect: Social Capital.
RGA Respite Program

- Provider driven.
- Professionally provided.
- Limited to in-home supports.
- Capacity for social capital – limited.
RGA Respite Program

Respite converts to Self-Determination Model

Parents are encouraged to use the dollars to expand their social capital (aka natural supports).
Linda Hedger...My Respite Worker
Linda Hedger...My Friend
- My son has Cerebral Palsy and wants to go to camp...

- My son has Autism and likes to run...

- My daughter, who has mental retardation, is in high school and has no friends...

Therapeutic Interventions

Social Capital
First Family Support Program

Kentucky, 1793
A pension to needy Kentucky families = bounty tax

There are family support programs in 42 states.

What is their focus? Is it Social Capital?
“Mom, respite used to give you a break from me, but now I need a break from you and dad. I need some more friends.”
Social capital, like other forms of capital, accumulate when used productively...

Jane Fountain
Social Capital: A Key Enabler
1998
1 Friend + 1 Friend = More Friends

Community Connectors
Family Connectors
How I Help Tia...How Tia Helps Me
As we change services to supporting families to increase their social capital while accessing therapeutic interventions...

Stocks of social capital, such as trust and networks, tend to be self-reinforcing and cumulative.

Robert Putnam
The Prosperous Community
1993

A family needed a ramp - was it a deck?

Neighborhood party  Alderperson  Social Capital
The Power of Place

Social relationships grow in social spaces. People meet in cafés, pubs, parks, post offices, and malls. People connect and exchange gossip and advice. They form and strengthen ties that bind them into communities. They build trust and understanding.

Do we give people with disabilities the support they need in order to have space and time to connect?

Cohen & Prusak
In Good Company, 2001
Helping at Rotary Run
Bridges to the Community
Building Social Capital
Measuring Social Capital
Closed Sheltered Workshop

Workshop
- One City
- 40,000 sq. ft. building
- Facility Cost = $403,000/annual

CLC
- 6 Villages
- 6 buildings (4,500 sq. ft. each)
- Facility Cost = $405,000/annual
Closed Sheltered Workshop

Workshop
- Volunteers = 0
- Community connections = 0
- Transportation: 5 large 36 passenger bus
- Staffing: 1:20

CLC
- Ind. volunteer weekly at 17 comm. locations
- Avg. 190 community connections per quarter
- 21 smaller 6-15 passenger vans
- Staffing 1:7
Closed Sheltered Workshop

Workshop
- Individuals supported, 165
- Paid Work: One contract for $400,000... lots of downtime

CLC
- 35 per site, 245
- Entrepreneurial model, 8 small businesses and micro industries
- Last year 102 employed
## Outcome Measures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>+ or -</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>People Choose Services</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>+40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People Realize Goals</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>+37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connected to Natural Sup.</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>+29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Different Social Roles</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>+29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People Have Friends</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>+23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use their Environment</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>+22%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Social Capital...Friends

Should we measure friends and community connections?
Is it a critical outcome?
Is your organization aware of opportunities for networking and building social capital?

Does your organization ask people what they want and need related to making and keeping friends?

Does your organization determine people’s preferences for being active in their community?

Does the organization have strategies to help people be active members of their community?
**Individuals**

Do the individuals you support know how to build their own social capital?

How often do they participate in the life of their community?

Are there barriers to community participation?

How is the person informed about options for building social capital?
Change is about people and behavior...
not about bylaws, structure, and policies.
Action Plan

ISP Relationships
Do you see your family as often as you want?
Do you see your friends as often as you want?
Do you have a close relationship with someone?
Are you respected?
ALL ABOUT ME

Where do you go for fun?
Who would you like to take to the movies?
Have you been on a date with a friend?
When are your friends’ birthdays?
Where do you go for the holidays?
Action Plan

Strategic Plan
How many community connections were made?
How many community connections were repeated?
How many people have new friends?
SUCCESS STORIES
ABOUT OUTCOMES RELATED TO CONNECTIONS
If I had an hour to save the world, I’d spend 55 minutes defining the problem.

- Albert Einstein
More Information

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