



**DISABILITY THRIVE INITIATIVE**

*Alternative Services and Supports for the IDD Community*

# **EMPOWERING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES TO MAKE INFORMED LIFE DECISIONS**

**MARCH 10, 2021**

# WEBINAR TIPS AND INFORMATION PART 1



Para interpretación en español, haga clic en el ícono de globo blanco a continuación etiquetado como "Interpretación" y seleccione el canal en español



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# WEBINAR TIPS AND INFORMATION PART 2



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Please use the survey at the end of this session to give us feedback and suggestions

# WEBINAR INTRODUCTION



**Barry Jardini**  
*He/Him/His*

Executive Director

—  
**California Disability  
Services Association**



CALIFORNIA  
**Disability  
Services**  
ASSOCIATION

# TODAY'S WEBINAR

- Introduction to Informed Decision-Making
- Panel discussion with members of the IDD (Intellectual and Developmental Disability) community
- Question & Answer
- More resources



# INFORMED DECISION-MAKING TRAINER



**John Raffaele**

*He/Him/His*

Director of Educational  
Services

**National Alliance for  
Direct Support  
Professionals**



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**in people's lives**

# BY THE END OF TODAY, WE HOPE YOU BETTER UNDERSTAND:



- What informed decision-making is (and what it is not)
- Why having choice is important for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities
- DSPs' (Direct Support Professionals) role in supporting choice
- How to support people in making their own informed decisions

# WE ALL USE INFORMED DECISION-MAKING!



*So why do we need training on it?*

**Because people with disabilities have historically and systematically been denied the right to:**

- **make decisions**
- **take risks**
- **experience life the way others do**





**“DISABILITY IS NOT A REASON FOR  
DEPRIVING ANY PERSON FROM MAKING THE  
SAME CHOICES OTHER PEOPLE HAVE THE  
RIGHT TO MAKE.”**

- Steven J. Taylor, On Choice. TASH Newsletter, 2001

# CHOICES: BIG VS SMALL



## DAY-TO-DAY DECISIONS

- Meals and mealtime routines
- Bed time and routines
- How and with whom to spend leisure time
- How to dress and how you appear to others

## LIFE-DEFINING DECISIONS

- Where and with whom to live
- Friendships and associations
- Where to work and what you do for a living
- Sexuality and marriage
- Medical treatments

***Keep in mind, a choice that may seem small to you may be BIG to the person you are supporting!***

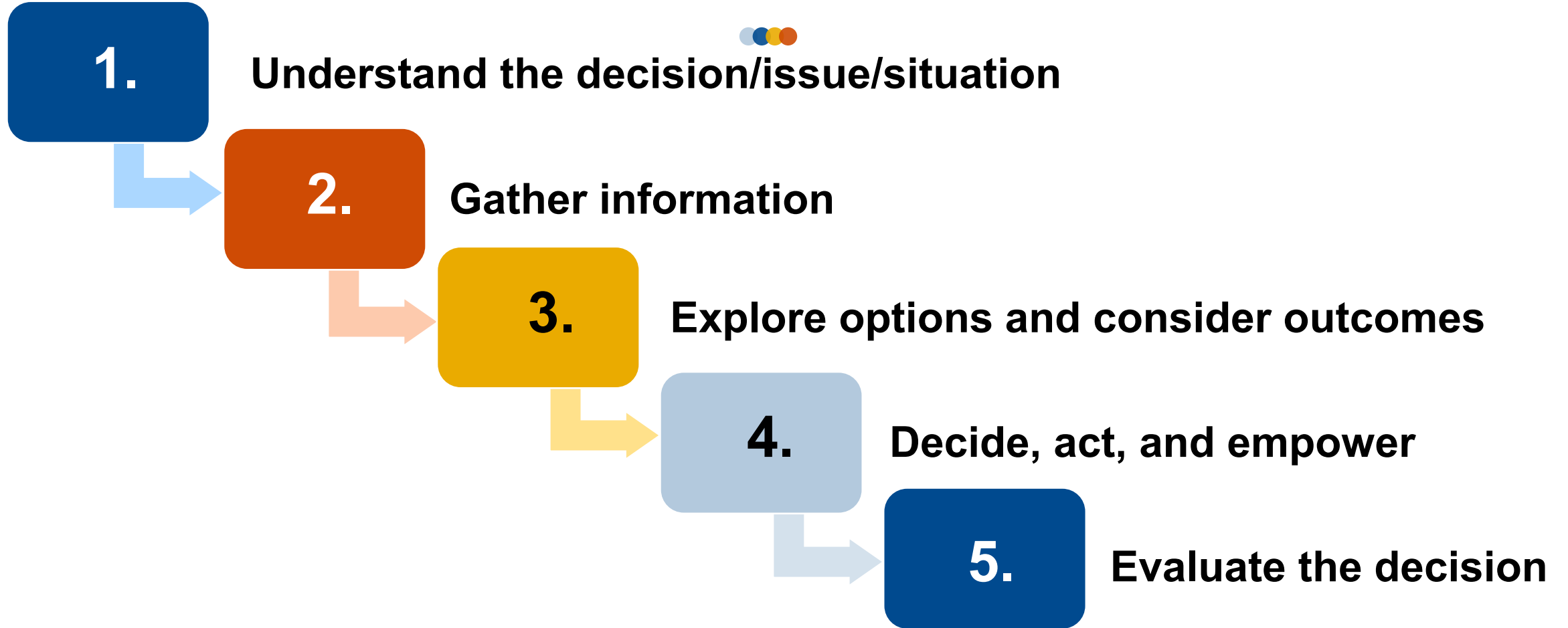
# WHAT IS INFORMED DECISION-MAKING?



- In informed decision making, a supported person has information and knowledge about an issue.
- With the assistance of a direct support professional or other person, the supported person understands:
  - the choices available
  - the possible outcomes
- Their final choice reflects their personal values, not those of the people supporting them.
- Finally, the supported person accept the decision's associated responsibility and risk.

# INFORMED DECISION-MAKING

*The 5-Step Process*



# THE SEVEN QUESTIONS TO ALWAYS CONSIDER



1. What kind of decision is being made?
2. Has the person made a decision like this before?
3. Has the person been helped to understand the risks and benefits?
4. How big is the impact of this decision in the person's life?
5. How long would the person live with the decision?
6. How hard would it be to undo?
7. **Most important:** What is the least restrictive level of support that might work?

“ Experience  
is the  
teacher  
of all  
things. ”

Julius Caesar

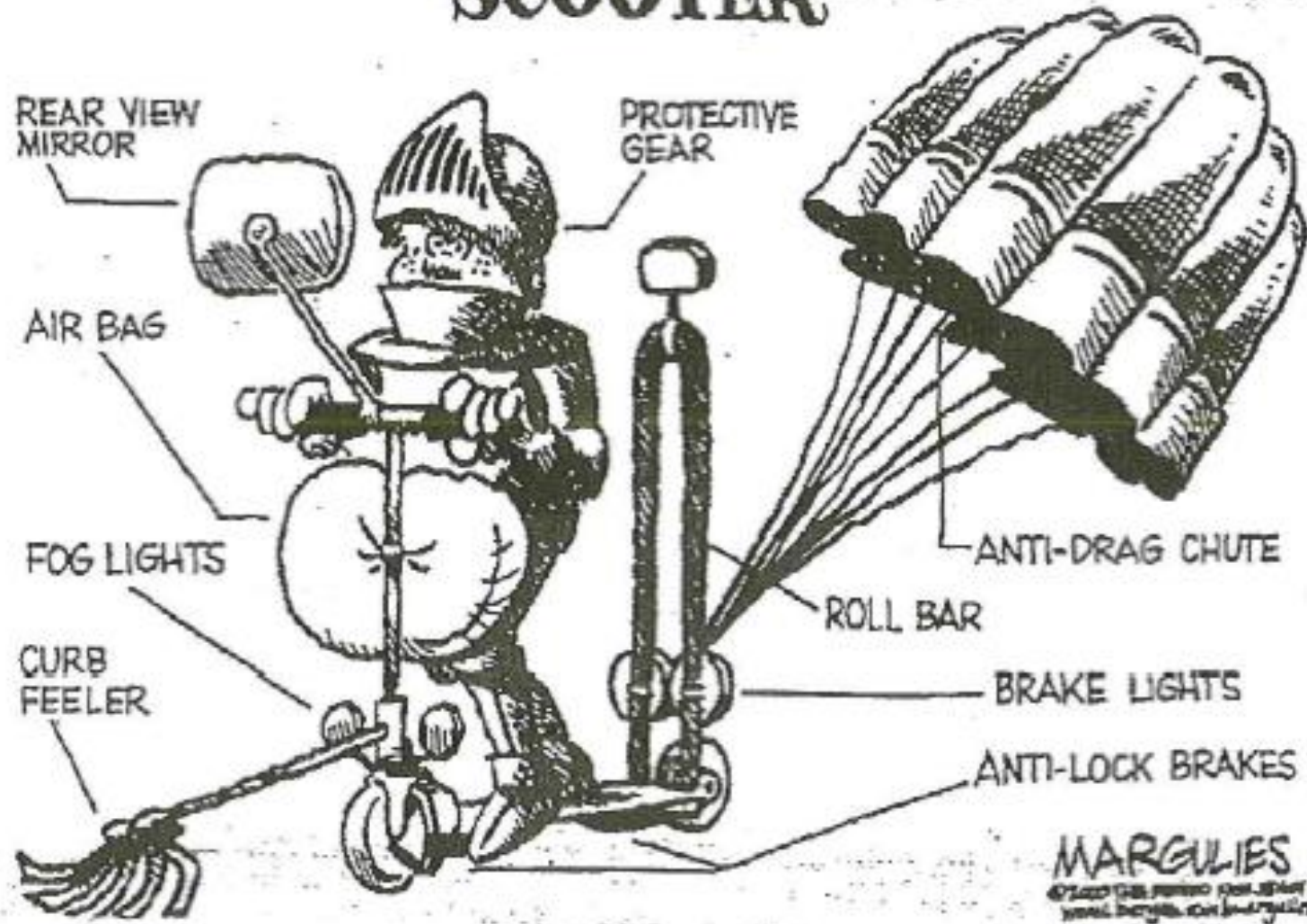
Something we get right after we  
needed it...

We all learn by experience  
(usually a bad experience...)

People we support need  
opportunities to **EXPERIENCE**  
different options in order to  
establish a preference.

Those options *may and will*  
involve some risks!

# U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCTS SAFETY COMMISSION APPROVED SCOOTER









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# MEET OUR PANELISTS



**Jenna Kiive**  
Self-Advocate  
Futures Explored



**Kavita Sreedhar**  
Parent  
Pragnya



**Michael Pereira**  
Executive Director  
Ala Costa Centers



**Trey StClair**  
Health & Safety Coordinator  
Futures Explored

# QUESTION & ANSWER

# DISABILITY THRIVE INITIATIVE RESOURCES



## Lunch and Learn

- Continue this conversation in a live, interactive session!
- Friday, March 12<sup>th</sup>
- 12:00 noon – 1:00 pm
- Register now:

[LunchAndLearn.DisabilityThriveInitiative.org](https://LunchAndLearn.DisabilityThriveInitiative.org)

Access the Resource Library and keep up with us:

[DisabilityThriveInitiative.org](https://DisabilityThriveInitiative.org)

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[SignUp.DisabilityThriveInitiative.org](https://SignUp.DisabilityThriveInitiative.org)

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[DisabilityThriveInitiative.ZenDesk.com](https://DisabilityThriveInitiative.ZenDesk.com)

# JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT WEBINAR



**Gain COVID-19 Vaccine Knowledge and Support Strategies to use During Alternative Services**

Wednesday, Mar 24, 2021

3:00 – 4:15 pm

# THANK YOU!



**DISABILITY THRIVE INITIATIVE**  
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We look forward to seeing you at future webinars.

Find this webinar and other resources at:

**[DisabilityThriveInitiative.org](https://DisabilityThriveInitiative.org)**

**[Info@DisabilityThriveInitiative.org](mailto:Info@DisabilityThriveInitiative.org)** | (916) 238-8811