

HLAA-LA  
FEBRUARY 27, 2016  
10:00 A.M.  
CAP: JOANNE (SUB FOR JANE)

>> PAT: GOOD MORNING, EVERYONE. CAN I GET A LIGHT FLICK? SOMEONE GIVE ME A LIGHT FLICK. THE LIGHT SWITCHES. DEAF PEOPLE WE NEED VISUALS. ALL RIGHT. YAY.

GOOD MORNING, WELCOME TO OUR MEETING.  
STANDING IN FRONT OF TIM.

FIRST I WANT TO THANK OUR CAPTIONS TODAY, JOANNE, WHO IS FILLING IN FOR JANE. WE REALLY APPRECIATE YOU BEING HERE. CAPTION MAKES A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE IN UNDERSTAND AND PARTICIPATE IN THESE TYPES OF THINGS.

AND ALSO WE HAVE A LOOPED ROOM. IF YOU HAVEN'T BEEN HERE BEFORE, ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS TURN ON YOUR INSTRUMENT. AND YOU WILL HEAR THE SOUND DIRECTLY IN YOUR EAR. SO LOOPING IS PART OF OUR ASSESSMENT ABILITY IN ADDITION TO THE CAPTIONS.

SO AGAIN, WELCOME, I'M PAT WITH MEN, AND I'M THE PRESIDENT OF THIS HLAA-LA AND WE ARE ABOUT TO START OUR 12TH YEAR.

WE'VE GREAT GROUPS BUT IT'S SO WONDERFUL TO SEE NEW PEOPLE TODAY. WE HAVE 8 OR 10 PEOPLE HERE TODAY. IF THIS IS YOUR SECOND MEETING, GIVE US A HAND WAVE.

AWFUL.

[ APPLAUSE ].

ON NAME TAG WE HAVE A PINEAPPLE.

TAKE A MOMENT TO INTRODUCE YOURSELF TO NEW PEOPLE. BECAUSE IT TAKES A LOT OF COURAGE TO COME HERE FOR THE FIRST TIME.

IF YOU DECIDED I'M FINALLY GOING TO GO AND FIGURE OUT SOMETHING ABOUT MY HEARING LOSS AND WALK IN THE DOOR, YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT AND IT'S A REAL STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. SO WELCOME. WE HOPE THAT THIS WILL BE YOUR FIRST AND MANY, MANY TIMES HERE.

WE HAVE A FULL PACKED AGENDA TODAY. OUR PROGRAM TODAY IS GOING TO BE ON OUR MIX COUPLES. WE'VE DESCRIBED OVER THE LAST DOZEN YEARS FOR ONE PERSON IN A RELATIONSHIP HAS A HEARING LOSS AND THE OTHER ONE DOESN'T.

AND OUR COUPLES WHO WILL PARTICIPATE ON THE PANEL TODAY ARE SIGNIFICANT OTHER, HUSBAND/WIFE, HOWEVER YOU WANT TO DESCRIBE YOUR RELATIONSHIP AND ALSO CAN RELATE TO THOSE OF US IN OUR WORK ENVIRONMENT, OUR NEIGHBOR, OUR CHILDREN, I MEAN WE KNOW SO OFTEN WE ARE IN RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER PEOPLE WHERE WE HAVE THE HEARING LOSS AND THEY DON'T AND LEADS TO ALL SORTS OF MISCOMMUNICATIONS, HURT FEELINGS, AND MISUNDERSTANDING.

EVEN IF YOU ARE NOT IN A RELATIONSHIP WITH SIGNIFICANT OTHER, THERE

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ARE DOZENS OF PEOPLE IN YOUR LIFE THAT YOU CROSS EVERYDAY.

WE WILL GET STARTED ON THAT SHORTLY.

WE DO HAVE A LITTLE BUSINESS TO TAKE CARE OF. AND ONE OF THE THINGS THAT I HAVE TO TELL YOU IS THAT THE PRINTED NEWSLETTER DIDN'T COME TODAY. WE WILL PRINT OUR FINGER AT LISA.

>> LISA: SORRY.

>> PAT: IF YOU GO TO OUR YAHOO GROUP, THERE'S A LINK.

>> IF SOMEBODY DOES NOT HAVE IT, JUST COME TO ME AND I'LL PROVIDE THAT TO YOU.

>> PAT: I'M ONLY GIVING HER BAD TIME SHE'S ONE OF MY BEST GIRLS.

BUT WE HAVE ALMOST ALL THE ANNOUNCEMENTS. I LEFT MY FOLDER TODAY TOO. THAT'S ONE OF THE REASONS WHY I CAN GIVE YOU GRIEF.

I'M GOING TO START THIS OFF WITH INTRODUCING TIM BROWNING, WHO IS ON OUR STEERING COMMITTEE AND ALSO OUR WEBMASTER.

IF YOU NOTICED WE HAVEN'T HAD A REAL WEBSITE IN OVER A YEAR.

WE HAVE SPENT MOST OF THE YEAR MEETING ALMOST MONTHLY TALKING ABOUT WHAT WE WANTED TO DO AND TIM HAS GOT SOME EXCITING NEWS FOR YOU.

>> TIM: GOOD MORNING, EVERYONE. AS A WAY TO PROMOTE CHANGE FOR THIS CHAPTER, POSITIVE CHANGE, PAT AND LISA AND KEN, WE'VE ALL MET THE PAST TEN YEARS TO STRATEGIZE TO HOW TO CREATE A WEBSITE TO PROMOTE CHANGE AND MEET ONE OF OUR IMPORTANT GOALS WHICH IS THE REACH OUT TO PEOPLE THAT ARE LOOKING FOR PEOPLE TO GET IT, CAN LOOK AND STORY AND UNDERSTANDING US TO A WAY THAT THEY FEEL COMFORTABLE EVEN BEFORE THEY COME HERE.

SO WE WILL HAVE A NEW WEBSITE BY THE NEXT MEETING. WHICH IS VERY EXCITING.

ANOTHER THING IS YOU CAN LAUNCH A WEBSITE. WE WILL CONTINUE TO BE INNOVATIVE. WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU GUYS, HOW TO ADD VALUE TO THE SITE. I WANT TO HEAR YOUR THOUGHTS ON WHAT WE CAN DO ON THE WEBSITE TO PROMOTE MORE AWARENESS, COMPASSION.

ONE GREAT VEHICLE FOR THIS WEBSITE IS TO PROMOTE CHANGE AND SO FORTH.

SO WE CAN CONSTRUCT THE SITE IN SUCH A WAY THAT WILL BE CONTINUALLY UPDATED WITH NEW FEATURES AND SO FORTH.

SO IT'S A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL WE HAVE A NEW OUT LET FOR THE WEBSITE.

WE CAN INTEGRATE THE NEWSLETTER INTO THAT.

NEWS FROM YOU, DOWN THE ROAD WE MAY DO COMMENTING ARTICLES, SHARE ARTICLES AND SO FORTH. IT WILL BE A REALLY NICE COLLABORATIVE VEHICLE TO KNOW ABOUT EACH OTHER AND LEARN WHAT'S OUT THERE.

>> URL?

>> TIM: HLAALAA.ORG.

IF YOU GO THERE RIGHT NOW, YOU CAN SEE OUR NEWSLETTER.

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YOU CAN GO THERE TO GET THE NEWSLETTER.

>> IT'S NOT A FULL NEWSLETTER. I JUST PUT A COUPLE THINGS ON THE WEBSITE.

>> TIM: I LIED. NEVER MIND.

GENERAL RULE JUST KEEP IT LOWER CASE.

SO IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS AND ASK NOW. IN THE INTEREST OF TIME IT MIGHT BE BETTER TO GRAB ME LATER.

>> HAVE -- ARE YOU DEALING WITH PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT COMPUTER-WISE. HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT HOW YOU ARE GOING TO DEAL AND REACH PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT COMPUTER WISE?

>> TIM: I THINK WE HAVE. WE WILL HAVE A WEALTH OF INFORMATION IF YOU JUST TYPE IN THE URL. YOU HAVE THE NEWSLETTER THERE AND THE INFORMATION THERE.

IF YOU WANT TO HAVE MORE INFORMATION OR CURIOUS, THERE'S OPTION FOR YOU. EVERYTHING YOU WANT TO SEE THAT'S PERTINENT TO UP COMING MEETING AND MEETING MINUTES AND SO FORTH, IT'S THERE. WE KEPT IT NICE AND SIMPLE FOR YOU. BUT IF YOU ARE NOT HAPPY, JUST COME ON OVER AND GIVE ME SUGGESTIONS. WE WANT EVERYONE TO GET VALUE FROM THIS SITE.

>> PAT: THANKS, TIM. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

[ APPLAUSE ].

WE ARE VERY EXCITED ABOUT THIS. IT'S NOT JUST INFORMATION, LIKE A NEWS LETTER. IT'S FULL OF RESOURCES. AS TIM SAID IT'S GOING TO GET BIGGER AND BIGGER AND MORE AND MORE INFORMATION. YOU WILL BE ABLE TO, THROUGH OUR WEBSITE, LINK TO NATIONAL'S WEBSITE, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO FIND OUT INFORMATION ABOUT, YOU KNOW, HEARING LOSS IN THE WORKPLACE OR YOU KNOW, LIKE THIS MIX COUPLES.

THERE'S GOING TO BE A TON OF STUFF THAT WILL BE AVAILABLE TO YOU.

I KNOW THERE ARE FEW OF YOU THAT STILL DON'T GO ON COMPUTER OR DON'T HAVE ACCESS TO COMPUTER. WE WILL TRY OUR BEST THAT SOME INFORMATION WE WILL PUT ON THE WALL AND AT THE MEETING. 99% OF THE PEOPLE WE ARE TRYING TO REACH ARE ON INTERNET AND DO GO TO FACEBOOK. SO WE HAVE TO AIM IT TOWARD THE LARGEST GROUP. BUT WE WILL HELP YOU AS MUCH AS WE CAN IF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM IN MAKING SURE THAT YOU KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING.

ON THAT NOTE I'M GOING TO ASK WENDY SO COME OUT AND TALK ABOUT A LUNCHEON THAT WILL BE HELD APRIL 16.

>> WENDY: GOOD MORNING, EVERYBODY.

THERE'S A NICE SIZE GROUP TODAY.

SO APRIL 16 IS OUR ANNUAL GARAGE SALE. THIS ALLOW US TO HAVE A GREAT TIME AND MAKE SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF MONEY FOR OUR CHAPTER. FROM \$700 TO \$1,000, THAT MONEY PAYS FOR OUR CAPTIONING.

SO IT'S A REAL IMPORTANT FUNDRAISER. AND WE'VE BEEN DOING IT FOR WHITE A FEW YEARS.

>> PAT: 11 YEARS.

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>> WENDY: SO WE KNOW HOW TO DO IT AND WE KNOW HOW TO DO IT WELL. IT TAKES A LOT OF WORK TO MAKE THAT HAPPEN. IT'S ALWAYS VERY UNIFIED EFFORT. PEOPLE WILL COME OUT AS EARLY AS 6:00 A.M. AND DONE ABOUT 3:00 TO 3:30 P.M.

WHAT WE'VE SEEN OVER THE YEARS IS THAT IT'S KIND OF A STRUCTURE. WE GET SETUP ABOUT 6:00 A.M. GET THINGS READY FOR SALE, MOVE THROUGH THE DAY AND THEN ANYTHING THAT'S NOT SOLD, AND WE HAVE THAT LAST MINUTE PUSH TO GET RID OF EVERYTHING, BUT WE NEVER GET RID OF EVERYTHING, BUT AN ORGANIZATION IS CONTACTED AND WILL COME AND PICKUP ANYTHING THAT WE DIDN'T SELL. SO IT'S A WIN/WIN FOR EVERYBODY. IT LOOKS EASY AND SUCCESSFUL, BUT UNDERLINING ALL THAT, WE HAVE A LOT OF FUN, AND A LOT OF HAND AT WORK.

SHOW OF HAND, HOW MANY PEOPLE HAVE DONATED SOMETHING TO ONE OF OUR GARAGE SALES? ALL RIGHT. VERY GOOD.

SHOW OF HAND, WHO HAVE COME TO OUR GARAGE SALE AND BOUGHT THE TREASURES THAT WE SELL?

OKAY.

AND ANOTHER SHOW OF HAND, HOW MANY PEOPLE HAVE COME AND WORKED AT THE GARAGE SALE.

TWO HANDS IN THE CORNER OVER THERE.

OKAY. THAT'S GREAT. SO AS YOU CAN SEE WE ALL, MANY OF US HAVE PARTICIPATED, AND IT TAKES A JOINT EFFORT. AND THIS IS OVER THE LAST 11 YEARS.

SOME PEOPLE MAY HAVE WORKED THE ONE IN 2009. AND WORKED AGAIN IN 2014 AND SOMEBODY ELSE MAY HAVE DONE THE 2007 AND THEN IN 2010.

BUT FOR THE MOST PART WE DO HAVE AT LEAST A FEW HANDS THAT HAVE BEEN WORKING ALMOST THE ENTIRE TIME. AND SOME OF THEM ARE REALLY TIRED. IT'S ALWAYS A SUCCESS.

AS A CHAPTER YOU GUYS HAVE A CAPACITY TO COLLECT A LOT OF JUNK. AND THIS IS OUR OPPORTUNITY TO DO BIG THINGS. LET'S GET RID OF THAT STUFF, SELL IT AND HAVE A GREAT TIME.

HAVING SAID THAT, SEVERAL WEEKS AGO I'VE SOLICITED HELP FOR GARAGE SALE. WE NEED AT LEAST 10 PEOPLE WHO CAN COME OUT AND REALLY WORK THROUGHOUT THE DAY. FROM 6:00 A.M. TO ABOUT 2:30 P.M. TO 3:00 P.M.

I DIDN'T GET 10 PEOPLE BUT I DO HAVE ABOUT 7 PEOPLE.

RIGHT NOW I HAVE PAT, LISA, MISSY, JUDY, KEN, CHLOE -- AND SO GIVE THEM A ROUND OF APPLAUSE.

[ APPLAUSE ].

I UNDERSTAND, WE UNDERSTAND THAT EVERYONE CANNOT NECESSARILY COME. THERE COULD BE A CONFLICT OR WHAT HAVE YOU.

IN THE SPIRIT OF OUR BELOVED MARK WHO SELL ALL OF HIS TREASURE TO DONATE AND MIGHT NOT BE AVAILABLE TO WORK, HE DID MAKE A POINT TO STOP BACK AND SUPPORT US AND WRITE OUT A CHECK. SO IT WAS ALWAYS VERY NICE TO SEE HIM COMING. OUR NUMBERS WENT UP BY \$100 IMMEDIATELY.

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HERE COMES BERNIE, HERE'S COMES \$600. SO I EXTEND THE INVITATION WHO ARE NOT ABLE TO COME BUT WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT THIS.

I'M GOING TO PASS THIS AROUND. WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR IS NOT ONLY, NOW, ALSO IF YOU SOMEHOW SAID THAT YOU WOULD AND I MISSED YOU, PLEASE PUT YOUR NAME ON THIS LIST. IF YOU HAVE DECIDED TODAY AND YOU MAY WANT TO, PUT NAME ON THIS LIST.

I ADD A COLUMN FOR TASK, TIME IN AND TIME OUT. SO WE CAN GET A SENSE OF HOW MUCH SUPPORT WE REALLY HAVE.

WHAT TASKS WILL YOU BE DOING? IN THE MORNING, YOU NEED TO ALL THE OF THE TREASURES THAT HAVE BEEN DELIVERED IN LISA AND JOE'S HOUSE AND THEY'VE BEEN GRACIOUS ENOUGH TO OFFER THEIR HOME FOR THIS EVENT. SO PLEASE GIVE THEM A ROUND OF APPLAUSE.

[ APPLAUSE ].

SO ALL OF OUR TREASURES WILL BE STORED UP THERE AND THEN THEY NEED TO BE SORTED, SETUP FOR SALES, TABLES SETUP, SOMETIMES WE STRING ROPES ACROSS TREES AND WE ORGANIZE SHOES, AND CLOTHES, ET CETERA. WE DO THIS BECAUSE THAT'S THE BEST WAY TO SELL.

PEOPLE COME AND SEE IT AND IT'S NICE, AND WE SELL BETTER WHEN IT'S ORGANIZE.

AND THEY COME EARLY.

WE WANT TO BE SETUP SO PEOPLE ARE READY TO SPEND THEIR MONEY.

WE HAVE JUDY WHO HAS TAKEN ON THE RESPONSIBILITY OF SIGNAGE. SHE GOES AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD AND PUTS UP SIGN AND STEERS IT TO WHERE WE ARE, WHICH IS GREAT.

A COUPLE OF YEARS AGO JUDY AND I STOOD ON CORNERS TRYING TO GET PEOPLE TO COME. WE HAD A GREAT TIME. IT WAS EXHAUSTING BUT IT WAS FUN AT THE END OF THE DAY.

WE ALSO NEED CASHIER. SOMEONE WHO COUNTS MONEY QUICKLY AND CAN HEAR WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING SO THERE'S NO CONFUSION. THAT'S AN ALL DAY JOB ALTHOUGH WE CAN SPLIT IT INTO TWO.

WE NEED PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE DAY ORGANIZE AND REORGANIZE THINGS. SO THAT IT ALWAYS LOOKS NEAT SO PEOPLE CAN SEE WHAT WE HAVE AND BUY IT.

CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS DO COME. BUT THEY ONLY PICKUP THE LARGE BOXES AND NOT THE THINGS SPREAD OUT IN THE YARD. SO SOMEBODY HAS TO GET THOSE THINGS READY. AND IT'S A BIT OF AN EFFORT.

I REMEMBER ONE YEAR SOMEHOW THERE'S A GLITCH AND THEY DIDN'T COME ON TIME

>> PAT: WE ARE RUNNING SHORT ON TIME.

>> WENDY: I'M GOING TO PASS THIS AROUND. I'VE SAID THIS SO GIVE YOU A CLEAR SENSE THAT WE NEED TO MAKE THIS VERY, VERY SUCCESSFUL. AND I'LL TAKE QUESTION.

>> WHERE IS THIS GOING TO BE?

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>> WENDY: IT'S GOING TO BE IN ALTADENA. AND THEY ARE HERE TODAY. AND WILLING TO TAKE ANYTHING THAT SOMEBODY MAY HAVE BROUGHT.

SO IT'S IN ALTADENA AND THEY LIVE ABOUT 15 MINUTES FROM HERE.

>> AT MOST.

>> WENDY: SO IF YOU CAN, IF YOU WOULD, PUT YOUR NAME ON HERE AND TELL US WHAT YOU CAN DO AND WHEN. WE WOULD BE MOST APPRECIATIVE. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

>> PAT: THANK YOU, WENDY. WE REALLY APPRECIATE THAT YOU ARE WILLING TO TAKE ON THIS RESPONSIBILITY AND OVERSEE THIS. IT IS A LOT OF WORK. BUT IT'S FUN. WE GIVE YOU DOUGHNUTS AND COFFEE IN THE MORNING AND PIZZA AT LUNCHTIME. SO IT'S FUN TOO. WE HAVE A GREAT TIME.

SO PLEASE SEE WENDY AND HELP OUT.

MOVING ALONG. I WANT TO CALL ON LISA TO GIVE US INFORMATION ON OUR FRIEND ALLEN.

>> LISA: REAL QUICK. I PUT THE ADDRESS OF WHERE THE GARAGE SALE IS ON THE SIGNUP SHEET. IF YOU SIGN UP IF YOU COULD JUST COPY DOWN.

I WANT TO GIVE A QUICK ANNOUNCEMENT BECAUSE A LOT OF PEOPLE WERE NOT HERE NEXT MONTH. ALLEN CLINK'S MOTHER STOPPED BY. SHE WANTS TO SHARE WITH THIS GROUP, BECAUSE HIS DEATH IS STILL NOT KNOWN, SHE WANTS TO COME HERE AND SHOW HER GRATITUDE. SO SHE JUST CAME HERE TO THANK US.

>> WHAT HAPPENED TO ALLEN?

>> LISA: BECAUSE HIS DEATH IS STILL UNKNOWN.

>> PEOPLE DON'T KNOW.

>> LISA: ALLEN WAS A MEMBER FOR THE LAST FEW YEARS. HE PASSED AWAY IN AUGUST, I THINK. AND IT WAS SHOCKING. IT WAS ONLY 40. AND IT WAS JUST A REALLY TRAGIC LOSS. HE CAME TO EVERY MEETING, ALL OUR EVENTS, IT WAS JUST A GREAT GUY. AND HE PASSED AWAY IN HIS SLEEP.

SO IT'S REALLY SAD FOR EVERYONE WHO KNEW HIM AND FOR HIS FAMILY. SHE WAS VERY MUCH STILL GRIEVING AND IT'S DIFFICULT BECAUSE THEY DON'T KNOW WHAT CAUSED HIS PASSING.

SO I WANT TO SHARE THAT SHE WAS HERE. SHE BROUGHT THESE, THESE WERE PRINTED FOR THE MEMORIAL SERVICE. SO SHE BROUGHT SOME HERE. I WILL LEAVE THEM UP IN THE PODIUM.

>> PAT: THANKS, LISA, AS YOU CAN TELL WE IDENTIFY THE CHAPTER AS A FAMILY. WHEN WE CELEBRATE PEOPLE WHEN SOMETHING GREAT HAPPENS TO THEIR LIFE AND MOURN A PERSON'S DEATH. THIS IS ONE OF OUR KEYS TO OUR SUCCESS AS A CHAPTER. WE REALLY WANT TO KNOW EACH OTHER AND BECOME CONNECTED BY MORE THAN JUST OUR HEARING LOSS. WE ARE PART OF THE SAME THING.

MISSY, I'M GOING TO ASK YOU TO TELL US ABOUT THINGS.

>> I DID WANT PEOPLE TO KNOW ABOUT SUCCESSFUL ADVOCACY THAT'S BEEN GOING ON. ARLENE HAS A LOT TO DO WITH THIS ONE. GLENN DORA SENIOR CENTER HAS BEEN LOOPED.

[ APPLAUSE ].

LILLIAN AND MARCIA HAVE PUSHED THEIR TEMPLE JUDEO IN THE VALLEY TO GET LOOPING. IT'S IN PROCESS. THESE THINGS TAKE TIME. BUT THIS IS PEOPLE GOING IN AND SAYING THIS IS WHAT WE NEED AND THIS IS WHAT WE WOULD LIKE. IF YOU DON'T SAY, THEY DON'T KNOW THAT YOU NEED IT.

AND KEN PUSHED HIS WESTWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH INTO LOOPING. THEY WILL BE DOING SURVEY NEXT FRIDAY. SO THOSE THINGS THAT'S IN PROCESS.

AND ANOTHER THING VERY IMPORTANT. THERE'S A BILL AB 1950 BEFORE THE SENATE. IT'S TO REQUIRE HEARING AID DISPENSERS TO GIVE INFORMATION ABOUT T-COILS AND WE HOPE TO INCLUDE LOOP INFORMATION. IT'S VERY IMPORTANT FOR YOU TO GET IN TOUCH WITH YOUR ASSEMBLY PERSON AND EVENTUALLY YOUR SENATORS. BECAUSE WE NEED THIS TO BE PASS. HOW MANY OF YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT LOOP UNTIL YOU FOUND THIS GROUP?

YEAH. ALL OF US. AND WE KNOW HOW RESISTANCE THEY ARE TO T-COIL AND LOOP.

SOME RESPONSIBLE PLACES DO THAT BUT MOST OF THEM DON'T.

SO TAKE NOTE OF THE ACTION ALERTS THAT GRACE AND WE ARE ALL POSTING ON WEBSITE. AND TAKE A TIME, YOU CAN WRITE A LETTER AND MAIL IT. YOUR REPRESENTATIVES HAVE A PLACE ON THEIR WEBSITE WHERE YOU CAN JUST WRITE AN E-MAIL RIGHT THERE AND TELL THEM WHAT YOU FEEL.

>> PAT: THANK YOU.

COMING, MARCIA.

>> MARCIA: JUST A QUICK STATEMENT. IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE IN A CHURCH. IT COULD BE IN YOUR HOME. WE HAVE LOOP INSTALLED AT MY DEN AND IT'S HELPED ME A GREAT DEAL WITH THE TV.

>> PAT: IF YOU HAVE MORE QUESTIONS ON WHAT LOOPING IS AND HOW TO BE PART OF THE LET'S LOOP CALIFORNIA OR LET'S LOOP PASADENA CAMPAIGN, I URGE YOU TO GO TO NATIONAL'S WEBSITE HEARINGLOSS.ORG. UNDER RESOURCES AND YOU CAN FIND OUT A LOT OF INFORMATION ON THE LOOPING INITIATIVE AND PAMPHLETS AND MATERIALS, YOU CAN FIND OUT, PRINTOUT SOMETHING, BROCHURES THAT YOU CAN BRING TO YOUR HOUSE OF WORSHIP AND SAY THIS IS WHAT LOOPING IS AND THIS IS WHY I NEED IT. SO YOU HAVE SOMETHING WHEN YOU TALK TO PEOPLE.

MOVING ALONG.

NEXT MONTH'S MARCH MEETING IS GOING TO BE UNIQUE IN THAT IT'S GOING TO BE, I GUESS, YOU WOULD CALL IT A STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING.

AS MENTIONED EARLIER WE STARTED THIS CHAPTER ALMOST 12 YEARS AGO. AT THE TIME SOME OF US JUST CAME TOGETHER AS FRIENDS AND SAY LET'S SEE WHAT WE CAN DO BY HAVING A SUPPORT GROUP AND FINDING A PLACE TO DO IT. AND WHO IS GOING TO DO WHAT? WE CAN MAKE THE COFFEE. AND WE CAN TAKE CARE OF GARBAGE SALE. AND SO WE PLAYED BY EAR, NO PUN INTENDED.

SO SEVERAL OF US WORE DIFFERENT HATS WHOEVER NEEDED TO BE DONE. OVER TIME WE'VE HAD 9 PEOPLE, EXCUSE ME, ON THE STEERING PEOPLE,

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AND NOW WE ARE DOWN TO 5 PEOPLE.

AND TO BE FRANK THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE BY THE TIME WE GET TO SEPTEMBER ELECTION IT CAN BE DOWN TO 2 PEOPLE THAT WE NEED TO HAVE MORE PEOPLE DOING.

AND/OR, THIS IS A CHANCE FOR US TO PUT OUR HEADS TOGETHER AND FIGURE OUT HOW WE CAN BETTER RUN THE CHAPTER.

DO WE WANT TO HAVE MORE COMMITTEES AS OPPOSE TO THE STEERING COMMITTEE WHO BASICALLY DOES IT ALL.

DO WE WANT TO HAVE A DIFFERENT WAY OF DOING STUFF?

DO WE WANT TO ELIMINATE SOME OF THE STUFF THAT WE ARE DOING NOW BECAUSE WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH HAND TO DO IT?

I KNOW IT SOUNDS BORING AND DRY BUT THIS IS A DYNAMIC CHANCE TO SEE HOW EXCITED WE ARE FOR GOING FORWARD AND TWO, TO HAVE YOUR VOICE ABOUT HOW WE CAN STILL BE THIS GREAT GROUP THAT GETS SO MUCH DONE AND MEAN SO MUCH FOR MANY OF US. STILL MOVING FORWARD.

I GET ALL CHOKED UP.

JUST LIKE WITH GARAGE SALES, WE NEED MANY HANDS TO GET THE JOB DONE. AND SOME OF US HAVE BEEN DOING IT FOR A LONG TIME. WE NEED NEW HAND AND NEW ENERGY TO GET THINGS DONE.

DON'T THINK I DON'T NEED TO GO THERE BECAUSE I DO NOT LEARN ANYTHING.

I THINK YOU LEARN A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT WHY THIS CHAPTER WORK AND WHY WE ARE UNIQUE.

THERE ARE A LOT OF CHAPTERS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA. LOOK AT THIS ROOM, WE ARE PACKED. WE ARE DOING A LOT OF THINGS RIGHT AND WE DON'T WANT TO STOP.

SO PLEASE COME AND HELP US TO NEW AND EXCITING THINGS.

I'M REALLY WORKING FORWARD TO HAVING NEW IDEAS.

I'M GOING TO TAKE A QUICK MOMENT SO THE PANEL CAN MOVE UP HERE FORWARD.

WE ARE GOING TO GET DANA RUN THIS.

WE ONLY HAVE TWO MICROPHONES.

WE PROMISE WE WILL TAKE SOME TIME TO LET YOU COMMENT OR ASK YOUR QUESTION FROM THE PANEL. DANA THIS IS WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT.

WE ARE IN RELATIONSHIPS. WE WANT TO SHARE YOUR TIME. IF YOU CAN HOLD OFF ON QUESTIONS SO WE ARE NOT LOSING THE MOMENTUM ON THIS.

WE WILL RUN ABOUT 11:15. WE WILL TAKE 15-MINUTE BREAK FOR CAPTIONIST AND FOR YOU TO GET COFFEE AND GOODIES AND COME BACK IN AT 11:30 AND FINISH OUT THE PANEL DISCUSSION AND QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS.

THANK YOU ALL FOR BEING HERE.

I'M GOING TO TURN IT OVER TO DANA.

DANA IS ONE OF THE MEMBERS OF OUR CHAPTER. SHE'S BEEN PART OF US FOR 8 YEARS, SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

SHE AND HER HUSBAND, TODD ARE A MIX COUPLE. TODD HAS NORMAL



HEARING. AND DANA HAS HEARING LOSS. SHE'S CURRENTLY WORKING AS A SUPERVISOR. DID I GET THAT RIGHT?

SHE ALSO HAS AN MA ON COUNSELING AND MARRIAGE AND COUNSELING. MORE PERFECT PERSON TO LEAD US TODAY. THANK YOU, DANA FOR COMING HERE AND GIVING UP YOUR SATURDAY BY THE A BEACH.

I'LL GIVE THIS MIC TO YOU.

THIS WILL BE OUR PASSING MIC.

>> DANA: I'M TOLD THAT I HAVE A SOFT VOICE. CAN YOU ALL HEAR ME? FIRST OFF. PAT, THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR INVITING ME. I'M VERY EXCITED TO DO THIS. THIS IS A FUN THING TO DO. I DIDN'T GET TOO MUCH OF A CHANCE TO MEET ALL OF OUR PANELIST. I WANT TO REASSURE YOU THAT THIS IS GOING TO BE A FUN CONVERSATION. AND IT'S IMPORTANT CONVERSATION.

SO A LITTLE BIT BACKGROUND ON ME AS PAT MENTIONED I HAVE MY DEGREE IN PSYCHOLOGY AND MARRIAGE THERAPY. I WORK WITH REGIONAL CENTER.

I HAVE A HEARING LOSS. IT WAS DISCOVERED WHEN I WAS ABOUT 5. I WEARING HEARING AIDS IN BOTH EARS.

I WAS MARRIED PREVIOUSLY FOR 25 YEARS, DIVORCED, WENT THROUGH THE DATING THING, AND I'M NOW REMARRIED ALMOST FOUR YEARS NOW. AND MY CURRENT HUSBAND, LIKE PAT SAY, IS HEARING AND I HAVE A HEARING LOSS.

SO WE HAVE ALL KINDS OF EXPERIENCE WITH DIFFERENT DIFFICULTIES AND FINDING STRATEGIES, FINDING COPING SKILLS AND FINDING THINGS THAT WORK.

SO WHAT I WOULD LIKE TO DO IS HAVE EACH OF YOU JUST INTRODUCE YOURSELF AND IF YOU CAN GIVE US AN IDEA OF HOW LONG YOU'VE BEEN TOGETHER AND HOW YOU MET AND WE WILL KIND OF GO FROM THERE.

AND I'M EXCITED FOR SOME GOOD STORIES.

>> FEMALE PANELIST: MY NAME IS BLANCA. I'VE BEEN WITH TIM FOR 8 YEARS IN MAY NOW.

AND WE'VE MET THROUGH MATCH.COM.

[ APPLAUSE ].

SO IT'S --

>> MALE PANELIST: YOU SCORED, TIM. [LAUGHTER].

>> DIANA: ARE YOU HEARING LOSS?

>> FEMALE PANELIST: I'M HEARING PERSON.

>> MALE PANELIST: WHAT DID YOU SAY?

I'M TIM. I AM THE ONE WITH HEARING LOSS. I'M BORN WITH MILD-MODERATE HEARING LOSS AND WAS DISCOVERED WHEN I WAS 4 YEARS OLD. FOR SOME REASON I DIDN'T GET HEARING AID ON THE LEFT SIDE.

THAT'S MY STORY.

>> DANA: MY HUSBAND AND I MET ON E HARMONY. WE SAY THAT WE MET WHEN WE WERE WALKING A DOG.

>> MALE PANELIST: I'M DOUG, I'M THE HEARING PART OF THIS RELATIONSHIP. AND THIS IS MY WIFE, ALEX. WE ALSO MET ONLINE BUT IN A DIFFERENT, WEIRD, INDIRECT WAY. SHE WAS VISITING FRIEND IN MONTCLAIR NEW JERSEY. AND I HAD THIS AWFUL PROFILE. AND SHE SAID I GUESS WHAT KIND

OF GUY LIVE IN NEW JERSEY. SHE READ MY PROFILE AND CONTACTED ME. AND BY THE TIME I RESPONDED SHE WAS ON A PLANE GOING BACK TO CALIFORNIA.

WHEN SHE CONTACT ME AND SAY HAPPY EASTER, I WOULD SAY WHO IS THIS AGAIN.

HOW MANY YEARS WE'VE KNOWN EACH OTHER? I DON'T KNOW.

>> FEMALE PANELIST: SINCE 2007.

SO WE MET SORT OF IN 2007 BUT ACTUALLY --

>> MALE PANELIST: 2011 WE ACTUALLY MET FACE-TO-FACE AS FRIENDS.

>> FEMALE PANELIST: AND THINGS PROGRESSED AND IT WAS LONG DISTANCE FOR A WHILE. AND HE MOVED OUT FOR ME AND WE GOT MARRIED A YEAR AND A HALF AGO.

I'M THE ONE WITH HEARING LOSS. IT WAS IDENTIFIED 12 YEARS AGO. I SUSPECTED THAT COUPLE YEARS BEFORE THAT. YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU ARE MISSING UNTIL YOU START HEARING AGAIN.

WHEN I GOT MY HEARING, I WALKED AROUND WITH KEYS JINGLING IN MY HANDS. SO THAT'S WHO THEY ARE.

>> MALE PANELIST: WE WERE TOLD THAT EVERYBODY WOULD BE WEARING MATCHING SHIRT.

>> MALE PANELIST: HI, I'M JOE AND THIS IS MY WIFE MARY BETH. WE MET IN GERMANY IN THE MILITARY. I DO NOT HAVE HEARING LOSS.

SHE WAS DIAGNOSED WITH HEARING LOSS BUT NOT SURE WHEN. BUT SHE CAME HOME AND TOLD ME, MY HEARING IS GOING BAD. I DIDN'T KNOW TOO MUCH ABOUT IT.

WHEN SHE GOT HER HEARING AID, GREAT, YOU GOT HEARING AID. LET'S MOVE ON AND THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT WE'VE BEEN HEARING SINCE.

>> FEMALE PANELIST: WE MET IN WEST GERMANY AND WE GOT MARRIED IN WEST GERMANY. WE HAVE BOTH HIGH FREQUENCY AND MID TONE. HIGH FREQUENCY IS FROM MY TIME IN THE ARMY. AND MID TONE IS INHERITED.

WHILE I WAS PROBABLY DIAGNOSED WITH IT, WITH HEARING LOSS SOMETIME IN THE '90S, NOBODY EVEN BOTHERED TO MENTIONED THAT UNTIL I WAS 40. AND I GOT MY HEARING AIDS 2.5 YEARS LATER WHEN I WAS PICKED TO GO TO A MILITARY COURSE WITH SENIOR PEOPLE ALL HAVE HEARING LOSS. SORRY GUYS. THEY WERE MEN AND THEY WHISPER AND DENIED THEY HAD HEARING LOSS. SO I THOUGHT ONE OF US GOING TO THIS CLASS HAVE TO BE ABLE TO TAKE CONTROL OF THIS. YES, I HAVE HEARING LOSS. AND I HAD A MEDICAL PROBLEM AND DIDN'T END UP GOING TO THE COURSE.

>> I DIDN'T REALIZE THAT I WAS SITTING IN FRONT OF THE SCREEN.

WE ARE NOT SURE IF ONE OF THE PANELIST OR YOU BUT WE WERE HEARING SCRATCHING.

>> DANA: COUPLE OF THEME HERE. WHO MET ONLINE. PEOPLE WITH HEARING LOSS, I THINK IT'S EASIER.

JUST TALKING A LITTLE BIT ABOUT THE DATING EXPERIENCE FOR YOU, FOR ALL OF YOU, AND WHAT WAS IT LIKE FOR YOU TO LEARN OF THE OTHER PERSON'S HEARING LOSS OR THE ONE WITH HEARING LOSS, WHO WERE SOME OF YOUR

CONCERNS ABOUT BEING OUT IN THE DATING WORLD AND MEETING SOMEONE.

SO IF YOU CAN KIND OF TOUCH ON THAT THEME FOR A SECOND. AND JUST GRAB WHOEVER WANTS TO START OUT. [LAUGHTER].

DOUG, WAS IT DIFFICULT FOR YOU IN THE BEGINNING, HOW DID YOU FEEL WHEN YOU FIND OUT ALEX HAVE HEARING LOSS.

>> MALE PANELIST: I REMEMBER EXACTLY WHERE I WAS. WE WERE DOING THE IM THEME.

SHE SAID SOMETHING ABOUT OH, BECAUSE OF MY HEARING LOSS. AND I SAID WHAT.

SHE SAID I DIDN'T MENTION THAT.

I SAID NO.

OH, OKAY.

AND WE STARTED TALKING AGAIN.

SO IT WASN'T REALLY -- I REALLY THOUGHT WHEN WE MET THAT EVERYTHING WAS GOING TO BE A BIG DEAL.

WHEN WE WERE ASKED TO BE ON THIS PANEL, I SAID WE CAN'T DO IT. WE DON'T DO ANYTHING.

I'LL REPEAT SOMETHING. THAT'S ABOUT IT.

>> DANA: WAS IT DIFFICULT FOR YOU TO DISCLOSE THAT YOU HAVE HEARING LOSS?

>> FEMALE PANELIST: NO. I NEED PEOPLE TO COMMUNICATE WITH ME CLEARLY. SOMETIMES I WILL FEEL IT OUT IF IT'S JUST ACOUSTIC. IT'S JUST WHO I AM. I NEED TO WEAR GLASSES.

>> YOU TOUCHED ON A GOOD POINT THAT WE WITH HEARING LOSS IN SOME SITUATIONS EVERYBODY EVEN HEARING PEOPLE WILL HAVE DIFFICULTY IN THOSE SITUATIONS.

WE TEND TO PERSONALIZE IT. BUT IT'S REFRESHING THAT PEOPLE ARE TYPICAL HEARING ALSO HAS DIFFICULTY HEARING IN HERE. THANK YOU FOR BRINGING THAT UP AS WELL.

>> MALE PANELIST: I THINK FOR ME I HAVE ANXIETY ABOUT MEETING PEOPLE.

MY CHALLENGE IS IM-ING BUT I DIDN'T LIKE TALKING ON THE PHONE. YOU START MISS YOUR S'S AND TH'S AND THEY START TO NOTICE THAT YOU TALK FUNNY.

SO MY CHALLENGE WASN'T MEETING BUT TALKING ON THE PHONE. I COULDN'T HEAR THOSE SOUNDS AND I TRY MY BEST TO ENUNCIATE THE WORDS BUT IT'S HARD SOMETIMES.

IT WAS HARD AT FIRST. BUT LATER I REALIZE, YOU KNOW, IT'S JUST A GOOD WAY TO FILTER OUT THE ONES WHO IS JUST WASTING YOUR TIME.

SO MAYBE IT'S THE LANGUAGE AS WELL BECAUSE SHE WASN'T REALLY NOTICING THAT. IT WORKED OUT THAT WAY. THAT WAS MY MAIN CHALLENGE.

>> FEMALE PANELIST: I NEVER NOTICED ANYTHING AT THE BEGINNING. WHEN I ACTUALLY MET HIM, HE SAID HE WAS FROM IOWA.

I LEARN ENGLISH AS SECOND LANGUAGE. SOMETIMES I DON'T UNDERSTAND

SOME THINGS AT THE BEGINNING.

BUT ACTUALLY I DIDN'T KNOW THAT HE WAS HARD-OF-HEARING. ON OUR THIRD DATE WE WERE GETTING ICE CREAM AND I LOOKED UP TO SEE HIM AND HE HAD HIS HEARING AID. THIS WAS THE THIRD DATE AND I NEVER NOTICED THEM THE FIRST TWO TIMES.

SO I DIDN'T THINK ANYTHING OF IT.

BUT HE ACTUALLY ENDED UP TELLING ME THAT NIGHT. I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING. THAT DIDN'T, I DIDN'T THINK ANYTHING OF IT.

>> DANA: THERE'S SOME WITH ACCENT THING. I'VE HAD PEOPLE ASKED ME ALL THE TIME WHERE ARE YOU FROM.

AND I SAY I'M FROM KANSAS. SOUNDS EXOTIC TO ME.

>> FEMALE PANELIST: I THOUGHT IT WAS HIS ACCENT.

>> DANA: SO JOE AND LISA BETH WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE.

>> MALE PANELIST: I'LL JUST REITERATE. SHE MENTIONED IT TO ME. AND I SAID OKAY WE WILL DEAL WITH IT.

ONCE AGAIN I WAS NOT SURE WHAT SHE WAS GOING THROUGH.

THE DAY SHE GOT HER HEARING AID, SAN DIEGO, SHE COMES OUT OF THE HOSPITAL AND GOES LIKE THIS (GESTURING).

OKAY. YOU GOT HEARING AID. LET'S GO OUT AND GET SOMETHING TO EAT.

AND ALL DAY LONG, SHE'S SITTING THERE, THERE'S DIFFERENT SETTING, I DIDN'T SAY A THING. SHE'S HAVING FUN WITH IT, I GUESS. I DON'T KNOW. [LAUGHTER].

AND I PLAYED ONE PRACTICAL JOKE ON HER THAT DAY AND I KNOW YOU ARE THINKING YOU'RE JERK.

IT WAS A DOOZY AND I WILL NEVER TOP THIS ONE.

SHE WAS IN A RESTAURANT AND THERE WAS A LOT OF BACKGROUND NOISE AND BACKGROUND SETTING. SHE DID THIS NUMBER AND LOOKED AT ME. AND I MOUTHED IS THIS BETTER.

IN THE NANOSECOND SHE WENT FROM HAPPY TO PISS.

HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I DONE THAT SINCE? NEVER AGAIN.

[LAUGHTER].

SORRY, DEAR.

ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE COIN FOR 20 SOME ODD YEARS, SHE KEPT SAYING THAT I'M GOING TO NEED GLASSES. AND NOW I NEED TO USE READING GLASS. AND SHE GAVE ME HER OLD PAIR OF GLASS TO USE. AND I WAS SITTING THERE DOING CHECKBOOK AND SHE GOES LOOK AT YOUR GLASSES.

DID I PICK ON YOUR HEARING AID.

>> AND YET YOU DID, DIDN'T YOU.

>> MALE PANELIST: THE SITUATION WE ARE GOING INTO NOW, WE HAVE A DEVICE FOR THE TV WHERE THE SOUND IS PIPED IN FOR THE HEARING AID. SO NOW SHE CAN'T HEAR ME AGAIN. SO WE HAVE TO FACE EACH OTHER AND ENUNCIATION AND STUFF LIKE THAT.

AND NOW WITH DEBATE, SHE'S WATCHING THE TV AND YOU HEAR "YEAH.

RIGHT."

SHE GOT HER HEARING AID NOW. MUST BE NICE.

SHE WILL TAKE IT FROM HERE.

>> FEMALE PANELIST: THIS ALLOWS ME TO HEAR TO THE END OF THE STREET WHICH IS ONE HOUSE OVER. SO I CAN HEAR THROUGH THE HOUSE WITHOUT SEEING THE TV.

THIS TV SHOW ONE GUEST WHO REFUSED TO TURN ON THE HEARING AID BECAUSE IT WAS DOWN ON THE BATTERY.

BUT WE'VE BEEN MARRIED 15 YEARS BEFORE I GOT THE HEARING AID.

>> DANA: ONE IS WHEN WE GET THOSE HEARING AID, I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THE REST OF YOU WHEN I FIRST GOT MINE, I WAS COMPLETELY OVERWHELMED WITH THE SOUND. I WAS EXHAUSTED AFTER 3 DAYS. I TOOK THEM OUT. I HAD A HEADACHE. BOOM. YOU GUYS ARE OUT OF HERE.

I WENT BACK TO THEM.

BUT IT WAS OVERWHELMING TO ME TO HAVE ALL THE SOUNDS COME IN THAT WE ARE NOT USED TO.

WE WANT THE TALKING BUT NOT THAT OTHER STUFF. SO THAT WAS FRUSTRATING WHEN WE FIRST GETTING IN.

I WANT TO MOVE INTO NOW, I THINK YOU'VE ALL TOUCHED ON DIFFERENT STRATEGIES AND COMMUNICATIONS ISSUES THAT MAY BE THERE AT TIMES, AND SO HOW DO YOU DEAL WITH THAT?

WHAT WORKS FOR YOU IN YOUR RELATIONSHIP WHEN SOMETHING COMES UP?

A COMMUNICATION ISSUE?

SOMEONE'S TALKING IN THE OTHER ROOM.

WHAT KIND OF STRATEGIES WORK FOR YOU?

>> MALE PANELIST: THE ONE THING THAT I DON'T ALLOW HER TO DO AND IT DOESN'T HAPPEN THAT OFTEN AND I CAN TELL THAT SHE DIDN'T HEAR ME. SHE WILL DO THE HEAD NOD THING.

AND I GO YOU DIDN'T HEAR ME, DID YOU.

NO.

AND I'M HORRIBLE. SOMETIMES I START TALKING AND NOT FACE HER. AND I FORGET AND I STOP AND LOOK AT HER. BUT ONCE AGAIN WITH HER NEW HEARING AIDS AND SHE GETS, SHE CAN PICK UP A LOT MORE SOUND. AND SOMETIMES SHE HAS TO READJUST TO THE BACKGROUND NOISE AND I COULD BE FACING HER AND SHE CAN'T HEAR WHAT I'M SAYING BECAUSE OF HER VISION, SHE CAN'T SEE MY LIPS CLEARLY ENOUGH. SO WE HAVE TO MAKE SURE WE ARE CLOSE ENOUGH. SOMETIMES IT GETS FRUSTRATING.

SHE'S GOING THROUGH A DIFFICULT TIME RIGHT NOW.

AND IT JUST, I WISH THEY WOULD COME UP WITH SOMETHING THAT CAN PROGRAM THE HEARING AID RATHER THAN HAVING GO THROUGH A WHOLE NEW DEVICE AND ALL THAT.

THE ONLY GOOD THING ABOUT THAT IS IF I HAVE HEARING LOSS, I KNOW EXACTLY WHO TO GO TO SPECIFICALLY.

>> DANA: BUT IT IS FRUSTRATING. AND WE ARE CONSTANTLY HAVING TO REMIND OURSELVES FOR THE HEARING PEOPLE, WAIT. DID THEY REALLY HEAR ME. MY HUSBAND AND I FOUND OUT THAT DAY LATER THAT I DIDN'T KNOW WE TALKED ABOUT THAT.

SO WE DO HAVE THAT.

SO IT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY THE ONE WITH HEARING LOSS SPEAK UP AND SAY, DIDN'T HEAR YOU. PLEASE REPEAT. AND SOMETIMES THAT'S HARD TO DO.

>> MALE PANELIST: AND IT HAS HELPED ME, I WORK A LOT OF RETAILS AND ONE OF MY CUSTOMERS IS KAT.

SO MY EMPLOYEES WILL SAY WELL I ASKED HER TWICE AND SHE IGNORED ME.

I SAID YOU DO HAVE SOME OF OUR FOLKS THAT HAVE HEARING LOSS. YOU HAVE TO FACE THEM.

SHE'S NOT ANNOYING. YOU HAVE TO FACE HER.

WE HAVE A BUTTON YOU HAVE TO FACE ME. PEOPLE DON'T KNOW THAT THIS PERSON IS SUFFERING FROM HEARING LOSS UNLESS YOU KNOW THE PERSON.

I SEE THAT KIND OF STIGMATISM SOMETIMES WHERE I WORK AT.

>> FEMALE PANELIST: ONE OF THE THINGS, OUR GROUP, IT'S NOISY AND I CANNOT HEAR. I JUST TAP ON HIS SHOULDER AND HE KNOWS TO COME CLOSER TO MY EAR AND TELL ME WHAT THE CONVERSATION IS ABOUT.

>> DANA: SO THAT'S A STRATEGY THAT WORKS FOR YOU WHEN YOU ARE NOT HEARING SO WELL.

DO OTHERS HAVE STRATEGIES THAT YOU WANT TO SHARE?

>> FEMALE PANELIST: JUST SAYING "WHAT" REALLY LOUD. JUST KIND OF BLUNT LIKE THAT.

>> DANA: WE LAUGH BUT AS COUPLES WE FIGURE WHAT WORKS FOR US. SOMETHING THAT WORKS FOR YOU MIGHT NOT WORK FOR OTHERS.

SOME ARE HEALTHY AND SOME ARE NOT SO HEALTHY. BUT WE WORK WITH IT ALWAYS.

ALEX, DID YOU HAVE SOMETHING?

>> DANA: I JUST MET YOU.

>> MALE PANELIST: WE ANSWERED IN THE QUESTIONNAIRE THAT THINGS THEY DO ANNOY YOU.

WITH HER CONVERSATION WITH HER "WHAT" IN THE BEGINNING I WOULD SAY SOMETHING AND SHE GO WHAT (GESTURING).

AND I WOULD GO WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM.

AND LATER ON I REALIZE THAT'S HER WAY OF REACTING WHEN SHE CAN'T HEAR.

EVEN TO THIS DAY WHEN SHE GOES "WHAT."

IN MY HEAD I'M THINKING "WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM."

I THINK MY NEW JERSEY COMES OUT. "WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM?"

>> MALE PANELIST: I THINK MY STRATEGY IS IF I GO TO SHOWER I'LL TELL HER THAT I DON'T HAVE MY HEARING AID.

MY JOB IS PRETTY DEMANDING, I DO BETTER TELLING HER MY MEN TOE

STATE. IF I'M NOT SLEEPING MUCH, IT'S HARD TO FOCUS.

SHE'S SO GOOD AT TELLING ME ABOUT HER DAY.

SO YOU NEED TO BE HONEST. CAN YOU BE PRECISE AND WORK WITH ME.

I THINK THE MIND PLAY A BIG PART IN HOW WELL YOU HEAR.

SOMETIMES YOU ARE TIRED AND NOT IN THE MOOD. SO YOU NEED TO WORK ABOUT THAT.

>> DANA: I LOVE THAT YOU BROUGHT THAT UP. A LOT OF HEARING STRUGGLE IN THE WORKPLACE, BY THE TIME WE GET HOME, WE ARE EXHAUSTED. WE DON'T REALIZE HOW MUCH EFFORT THAT TAKES.

SO BEING UP FRONT. YOU ARE GOING TO HAVE TO SPEAK CLEAR, LOUDER, BECAUSE I'M EXHAUSTED. SO IT CARRIES OVER IN OUR RELATIONSHIPS.

SO I LOVE YOU ARE HONEST WITH THAT. WE REALLY DO HAVE THAT NEED. IT'S EXCELLENT.

>> I WANT TO MENTION SOMETHING. I WAS BORN HEARING AND BASICALLY HAD NORMAL HEARINGS UNTIL 30s. I KNEW MY PRESENT HUSBAND. SO HE KNEW ME COMPLETELY HEARING. AND GO INTO BEING DEAF.

ONE OF THE AREAS THAT WAS REALLY ROUGH IS WE WERE CREATIVE PARTNERS AND WE WERE QUICK AND CLEVER AND WE TALKED OVER EACH OTHER, WHEN I LOST MY HEARING, I BECAME EXTREMELY INSECURE.

MY SELF-ESTEEM WAS GONE BECAUSE I COULDN'T BE THAT PERSON.

SO I HAD TO RELEARN. I WANTED TO MENTION THAT. I HAD TO RELEARN HOW TO BE WHO I WAS WITHOUT MY HEARING.

AND THAT WAS AN EXTREMELY DIFFICULT JOURNEY. AND I WANT TO MENTION THAT TO PEOPLE OUT THERE WHO ARE GOING THROUGH THE SAME THING.

AND NOW, WE ARE TALKING OVER EACH OTHER, AND IMPLANT HELP WITH THAT. BUT IT WAS A VERY HARD AND DEPRESSING JOURNEY TO GO THROUGH.

>> DANA: THANK YOU FOR SHARING THAT. WE ALL HAVE DIFFERENT TIME PERIODS OF HEARING LOSS. FOR THOSE WHO LOST THEIR HEARING LATER IN LIFE IT'S A DIFFICULT CHALLENGE. FOR THOSE WHO HAVE LOST HEARING LATER IN LIFE, THERE'S MORE MOURNING INVOLVE. THERE'S MORE LOSS INVOLVED I THINK. SO I APPRECIATE THAT.

BLANCA, WHAT IS IT FOR YOU AS FAR AS ASSISTING DOUG -- TIM, THANK YOU. I NOTICE THE LOOK.

WHAT TYPE OF STRATEGIES DO YOU USE WHEN YOU NOTICE TIM IS STRUGGLING?

>> FEMALE PANELIST: IN GENERALLY, I GUESS THE ONLY TIMES WHEN I SEE HIM STRUGGLING WHEN WE GO OUT AND HE CAN'T HEAR WHAT SOMEBODY SAYS, I REPEAT IT OR I ANSWER FOR HIM.

IT COMES AUTOMATICALLY.

ALSO OVER THE PHONE INFORMATION, IT'S FRUSTRATING WHEN WE ARE TRYING TO GET DIRECTION AND I'M TRYING TO GIVE HIM DIRECTIONS. SOME THINGS LIKE "SLOW DOWN" SOMETIMES I JUST HANG UP THE PHONE ON HIM AND CALL AGAIN.

THAT'S ONE OF THE HARDEST TIMES TO COMMUNICATE FOR HIM.

TEXTING AND E-MAILING INSTEAD OF DOING IT OVER THE PHONE WILL HELP.

>> DANA: YOU TOUCHED ON SOMETHING, SOMETIMES YOU ANSWER FOR HIM. THOSE WITH HEARING LOSS ON THE PANEL, WHAT HAPPENS IF YOUR PARTNER ANSWERS FOR YOU, DO YOU WANT TO BE ASKED, WHAT WORKS FOR YOU HEARING WISE.

>> MALE PANELIST: FOR ME I GET ANXIOUS IN NOISY ENVIRONMENT. OR WHEN THEY ARE MAKING ANNOUNCEMENT OVER THE LOUD SPEAKER AND THEY CALL MY NAME AND I DIDN'T HEAR IT. I FREAK OUT. I GO TO MY GATE AND WHERE'S MY PLANE.

I THINK YOU HAD SIMILAR OCCURRENCES.

ACTUALLY I DON'T MIND TO HAVE MY SUPPORT WITH ME. I RATHER GET IT RIGHT THAN I GET IT WRONG AND I HAVE TO SPEAK TO HIM.

SHE KIND OF TALKING TO HIM.

I DON'T MIND BUT I CAN SEE HOW IF YOU HAVE A STRONG EGO AND YOU WANT TO DO IT ON YOUR OWN BUT I ACTUALLY DON'T MIND.

>> DANA: AGAIN, THERE'S NO RIGHT OR WRONG. WHAT WORKS FOR SOME PEOPLE MAY NOT WORK FOR OTHERS. THERE'S NO RIGHT OR WRONG. WE ARE JUST TRYING TO SEE WHAT DOES WORK.

AND GIVE THE REST OF US AS WELL THE FEELING OF THAT WORKED FOR THEM, THAT DOESN'T WORK FOR ME. I'M GOING TO TAKE THIS PIECE. AND THAT'S WHAT THIS IS ABOUT. WE ARE LEARNING FROM EACH OTHER.

>> FEMALE PANELIST: I DON'T MIND IF HE HELPS ME. I KIND OF JUST FIGURE IT'S JUST A WAY THINGS ARE AS A COUPLE. WHEN YOU SEE THE OTHER STRUGGLE WITH SOMETHING, YOU STEP IN AND HELP OUT. IT DOESN'T BOTHER ME AT ALL. I FEEL COMFORTABLE ADVOCATING MYSELF. I DO FEEL MORE COMFORTABLE IF WE ARE SOMEWHERE UNFAMILIAR, FOR ME I WILL GET ANXIOUS AND OVERWHELMED, IF I'M NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE PLACE AND I CAN'T HEARING, HE'S VERY GOOD AT FILLING ME IN ON THAT. SO I APPRECIATE HIM DOING THAT FOR ME.

>> FEMALE PANELIST: THERE WILL BE TIMES WHERE I KNOW IT'S GOING TO BE NOISY AND I WILL TELL HIM BEFOREHAND, YOU WILL NEED TO TELL ME WHAT I NEED TO KNOW. AND THERE ARE TIMES WHERE I GO, I GOT IT. BE QUIET. [LAUGHTER].

BECAUSE HE'S NOT TRYING TO, THIS IS BY ONE OF THOSE SITUATIONS THAT SHE DIDN'T MENTION IT.

>> DANA: WE WANT TO BE SELF-SUFFICIENT. WE DON'T WANT HELP ALWAYS. THERE'S A FINE LINE BETWEEN HOW DO I TELL THIS PERSON, GREAT, I GOT IT. AND EVEN SOMETIMES THE PERSON WHO IS HELPING MIGHT FEEL SLIGHTED, A LITTLE HURT.

>> MALE PANELIST: I WASN'T FEELING SLIGHTED. THIS IS NEWS TO ME. I USUALLY WAIT UNTIL I GET THE POKE TO SAY THIS IS WHERE I STEP IN.

ON THAT, THOUGH WHEN SHE STARTS FEELING FRUSTRATED, I LET HER GET FRUSTRATED. BUT OKAY. LET'S MOVE ON NOW. THERE'S ANOTHER ADJUSTMENT



PERIOD THERE.

LIKE I SAID, MY EYESIGHT IS STARTING TO GO A LITTLE BIT FLEWY IN SOME CASES AND I HAVE TO RELY ON HER STYLES. OKAY. WHAT IS THIS?

YEAH. WE HELP EACH OTHER OUT A LOT.

WE'VE BEEN TOGETHER FOR 26 YEARS WE READ EACH OTHER PRETTY GOOD I THINK WE TRY NOT TO STEP ON EACH OTHER. I MAKE HER GO OUT AND MINGLE WITH PEOPLE. (GESTURING).

>> DANA: SO OBVIOUSLY SENSE OF HUMOR WORKS WELL TOO.

DID YOU HAVE SOMETHING YOU WANT TO ADD?

>> MALE PANELIST: NO. THE MIC JUST KEEP COMING BACK.

>> DANA: SENSE OF HUMOR WORKS FOR ALL OF US.

WE DIDN'T HEAR SOMETHING CORRECTLY OR WE ANSWER SOMETHING WRONG.

WHAT? THAT'S NO NEAR WHAT I WAS TALKING ABOUT.

SO SENSE OF HUMOR IS CRUCIAL IN RELATIONSHIPS. DEFINITELY.

A LOT OF YOU HAVE TALKED ABOUT THE DIFFICULTIES THAT MAYBE THERE. HAS ANYONE EXPERIENCED FEELING OF DEPRESSION WITH HEARING LOSS AND HOW WAS THAT FOR YOU WITH YOUR PARTNER, ASSISTING OR FOR THE PARTNERS, WHAT KIND OF THINGS YOU TRY TO LIFT YOUR PARTNER BACK UP?

>> FEMALE PANELIST: WHEN I GOT THE HEARING AIDS AND THEY PROPERLY DID THE DIAGNOSIS I WAS STILL ACTIVE DUTY IN THE ARMY. AND YOU HAVE TO GO TO MEDICAL BOARD AND CONVINCED THEM NOT TO FIRE ME. AND WHAT'S MORE BECAUSE I WAS IN LOS ANGELES I HAD TO GO OUT TO THE DESERT TO THE NEAREST ARMY BASE TO DO THAT.

TO PEOPLE I'VE NEVER MET AND GET UP REALLY EARLY. I WAS TIRED AND CRANKY. I GOT THROUGH THAT. THAT DIDN'T REALLY DEPRESS ME.

IT WAS SEVERAL YEARS LATER, AND IT WASN'T THE HEARING LOSS PER SE, IT WAS OKAY. I'M RETIRED, NOBODY WANTS A WOMAN VETERAN TO WORK FOR THEM AND I CAN'T HEAR WELL.

BECAUSE I WAS A JOURNALIST FOR 25 YEARS.

I CAN GO INTO EDITING EXCEPT NOBODY WANTED TO HIRE SOMETHING PARTICLE IN THE ARMY TO DO THAT BECAUSE THEY WERE AFRAID, I DON'T KNOW, PLAN THEIR NEWSPAPER OR WHATEVER. BUT I ALSO COULDN'T GO OUT ON THE STREET JOURNALIST BECAUSE THERE ARE ENOUGH WORDS THAT ARE COMMON THAT I CAN'T TELL WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING.

YEAH. I COULD UNDERSTAND THAT. I COULD BE A LIABILITY TO THE NEWSPAPER BECAUSE I CAN GET THEM SUED. SO THEY DIDN'T WANT TO TAKE A CHANCE WITH EDITING. SO THAT WAS DEPRESSING.

>> DANA: AND WAS THAT SOMETHING YOU WERE ABLE TO COMMUNICATE TO JOE OR WAS HE ABLE TO ASSIST YOU?

>> FEMALE PANELIST: YEAH. HE SAID GO TO V.A. AND THEY WILL HELP YOU. AND I DID.

>> DANA: I REMEMBER APPLYING FOR A JOB ONE TIME AND THIS WAS BACK

15 YEARS AGO BEFORE ALL THE GREAT TECHNOLOGIES THAT WE HAVE NOW WITH PHONES AND TEXTING AND EVERYTHING AND BEING SO DEPRESSED AND WALKED OUT OF THERE, AM I ONLY GOING TO DO DATA ENTRY FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE BECAUSE I CAN'T HEAR.

THERE WAS A PERIOD THAT I FELT I COULDN'T DO WHAT I REALLY ENJOYED. I STRUGGLED A LITTLE BIT MORE. IT'S A HUGE PART OF WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE ARE AS COUPLES AS WELL.

>> MALE PANELIST: I SAID A LOT OF YES DEAR A LOT. AND JUST LET HER VENT SOMETIMES. BECAUSE SHE DOES GET FRUSTRATED BECAUSE OF HER JOB.

I'VE BEEN REALLY GETTING ON TO HER, OKAY. YOU CAN'T BE A JOURNALIST ANYMORE. WE STILL HAVE SEVERAL YEARS LEFT TOGETHER. AND SHE'S REALLY GOOD WITH HER HANDS. AND I'M MAKING HER EXPLORE, SHE'S VERY CREATIVE. AND SO, SETTING UP A WORKSHOP FOR HER. SO SHE CAN COME HOME AFTER WORK, SHE DOES RETAIL NOW. I DO THIS NOW, GO INTO GARAGE AND CRAFT FOR ABOUT AN HOUR. AND BY THE END OF THE YEAR, YOU HAVE ALL THESE NICE THINGS IN YOUR HOUSE.

YOU SHOULD SEE MY BACKYARD.

[LAUGHTER].

>> DANA: DID YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SHARE?

>> FEMALE PANELIST: I CAN REALITY TO THAT. I DON'T THINK I PUT IT TOGETHER AT FIRST.

PRIOR TO IT I WAS VERY SOCIAL, GOING TO LOUD PLACES AND WITH MY FRIENDS, I'M KIND OF AN ALOOF IN GENERAL. I START WITHDRAWING. YOU GO OUT BUT YOU CAN'T PARTICIPATE. AND THERE'S A RIPPLE EFFECT BECAUSE YOU CAN'T PARTICIPATE. AND YOU GET WITHDRAW EVEN MORE. AND I HAVE A COGNITIVELY DEMANDING JOB, FOR HEARING AND THINKING. YOU ARE LISTENING INTENTLY THROUGHOUT THE DAY AND YOU ARE DONE BY THE END OF THE DAY.

SOME DAYS I COME HOME AND I RIP MY HEARING AID OUT. I DON'T WANT TO DO ANYTHING INVOLVING SOUND.

>> DANA: I CAN RELATE TO THAT AS WELL.

I LIKE TO SOUND. I DON'T WANT TO TAKE THAT FOR GRANTED.

BUT I LIKE HOW YOU TOUCHED ON THAT.

WE SPEND ALL DAY HEARING AND THE UNDERSTANDING PART. THE REALLY INTENSE LISTENING, LIP READING, FACIAL READING TAKE SO MUCH OUT OF IT.

BY THE TIME WE GET HOME TO OUR SPOUSE, WE ARE EXHAUSTED. I REALLY APPRECIATE YOU SHARING THAT.

>> FEMALE PANELIST: HOW I REFRAME ABOUT IT IS THERE ARE STUDIES FENDING OFF AND PREVENTING DEMENTIA, DOING CROSS WORD PUZZLE.

>> DANA: WHATEVER IT TAKES.

>> FEMALE PANELIST: WE ARE ALL VERY SHARP.

>> DANA: DO YOU HAVE THOUGHTS ON THAT?

>> MALE PANELIST: I THOUGHT ABOUT THE GARAGE SALES FROM ALL THE WONDERFUL ITEMS IN YOUR GARAGE YOU MENTIONED.

I WORK AS A MANAGER A LOT OF PEOPLE REPORT TO ME. A LOT OF PEOPLE

ARE NOT ENGLISH-SPEAKING FIRST. I HAVE ISSUE WITH ACCENTS. ON THE PHONE IT DOES GET VERY TIRING. AND THEN I CANNOT DO MY JOB RIGHT.

SO I HAVE TO PIECE IT TOGETHER.

CAN YOU SEND ME AN E-MAIL AND REVIEW WHAT WE TALKED ABOUT?

I HAVE TO WORK HARD AT THAT. I'M GETTING BETTER AT IT. DEFINITELY MY HEARING IS GETTING WORSE. IT'S JUST HARD.

I THINK THE OTHER PART IS, BLANCA HAS WONDERFUL FAMILY, THEY ALL TRY TO SPEAK ENGLISH TO ME, A LOT OF THEM DON'T HAVE STRONG ENGLISH SKILLS. WHAT'S HARD IS WHEN THEY ARE LAUGHING AND THEY ARE TALKING SPANISH BECAUSE THAT'S THEIR LANGUAGE AND SUDDENLY THEY TRY TO TALK TO ME IN ENGLISH I KIND OF ZONE OUT. [LAUGHTER].

IS THAT ENGLISH? OH, THEY TALK TO ME IN ENGLISH BUT THEIR ENGLISH IS NOT PERFECT.

I HAVE TO FOCUS REALLY HARD BECAUSE OF THE STRONG ACCENT. I STILL MISS THAT. WHAT'S HARD IS I LOVE HER FAMILY AND I GET EXHAUSTED QUICKLY. I NEED DOWN TIME. I'M AN INTROVERT. I NEED TO GO AND CHILL. I DON'T WANT HER FAMILY TO THINK THAT I DON'T WANT TO BE AROUND THEM, I DO.

IT'S JUST A LOT. I TALKED TO HER ABOUT IT. AND I'M TALKING TO YOU ABOUT IT RIGHT NOW.

>> DANA: THAT'S WHAT THIS IS FOR.

I WANT TO TOUCH ON QUICKLY THE ASPECT OF SUPPORT THAT WE NEED AND THAT'S WHAT THIS GROUP IS FOR SO MUCH AS WELL IS WHEN YOU HAVE A HARD TIME AND TALK ABOUT IT.

WITH THAT SAID WE WILL TAKE A 15-MINUTE BREAK. MINGLE, TALK, AND EAT AND LAUGH AND WE WILL COME BACK.

(BREAK 11:16 A.M.)

>> PAT: EVERYBODY, LET'S GET STARTED.

ALL RIGHT. GREAT. I'M GOING TO TURN THE MIC OVER TO DANA. AND THEN IN A FEW MINUTES WE ARE GOING TO START ASKING FOR COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS FROM THE REST OF YOU.

WE ARE LIMITED IN TIME. OUR CAPTION WORKS UNTIL NOON.

>> DANA: THANK YOU. WHEN WE HAVE PEOPLE ASK, DO YOU WANT ME TO GO BACK AND FORTH OR PASS THE MIC?

>> PAT: WE WILL TRADE.

>> DANA: CAN EVERYBODY HEAR ME? I WAS GIVEN INSTRUCTION OUTSIDE FOR HOLDING THIS CORRECTLY.

JUST TELL ME. I NEED COMMUNICATION. JUST SAY LOWER IT DOWN, WE CAN'T HEAR YOU. WHATEVER WORKS.

I'M GOING TO WRAP THINGS UP A LITTLE BIT. I WAS LOOKING AT MY NOTES AND IT LOOKS LIKE THAT YOU GUYS HAVE TOUCHED ON EVERYTHING I WANT TO MENTION. AND THERE ARE ALWAYS SOMETHING NEW IN RELATIONSHIPS.

I HAVE TWO PEOPLE COME UP TO ME AND SAYING HOW WONDERFUL THIS

DISCLAIMER: THIS IS NOT A CERTIFIED VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT, BUT RATHER REPRESENTS ONLY THE CONTEXT OF THE CLASS OR MEETING, SUBJECT TO THE INHERENT LIMITATIONS OF REALTIME CAPTIONING. THE PRIMARY FOCUS OF REALTIME CAPTIONING IS GENERAL COMMUNICATION ACCESS

WAS AND IT WAS COMPLETELY EYE OPENING TO THEM THAT THERE ARE OTHER PEOPLE OUT THERE THAT GO THROUGH THE SAME EXACT THINGS THEY DO.

IT'S HUGE SUPPORTIVE TO FIND PEOPLE WHO REALLY GET WHAT YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT.

WE WILL WRAP THING UP AND OPEN UP FOR QUESTIONS.

WE WON'T HAVE ENOUGH TIME AND THAT'S HOW WE GET YOU TO COME BACK.

SO IF YOU GUYS HAVE ANY THOUGHTS OR THINGS THAT YOU WANT TO SHARE TO OTHERS, AND THEN WE WILL OPEN UP TO QUESTIONS.

>> FEMALE PANELIST: WHAT HAD HELPED US WITH BEING OPEN IN OUR CONVERSATION AND LEARNING ABOUT EACH OTHER EVERY DAY. WE ARE ALL DIFFERENT. COMMUNICATION IS A BIG DEAL. TELLING EACH OTHER OUR FEELINGS.

IF I DID SOMETHING WRONG, HE WOULD TELL ME.

AND I WILL KEEP AN OPEN MIND AND BE MINDFUL OF MY ACTIONS IN THE FUTURE.

JUST LOOK AT THE POSITIVE IN EVERYTHING. PRETTY MUCH.

>> DANA: THERE WAS A SAYING THAT HARDEST PART OF CONVERSATION IS THE MOMENT OF HAVING THE CONVERSATION THAT WE DON'T WANT TO HAVE. BUT ONCE YOU GET THE FEW WORDS OUT, IT HELPS TO KEEP THE CONVERSATION GOING.

>> FEMALE PANELIST: JUST ONE MORE THING. SOMETIMES I WOULD TELL HIM SOMETHING AND HE WOULD GO YES. AND I DON'T THINK HE UNDERSTANDS WHAT I SAID. JUST TO FIND OUT LATER THAT HE DIDN'T KNOW WHAT I WAS TALKING ABOUT. SOMETIMES HE SHOULD ASK IF HE DIDN'T UNDERSTAND ME OR TELL ME TO SAY IT AGAIN.

I'M GOING TO FIND OUT THAT HE DOESN'T KNOW.

>> DANA: SOMETIMES I GET TIRED OF ASKING THEM TO REPEAT. SO THAT'S WHEN I SAY TO MYSELF, WHAT DO I NEED TO MAKE THE CONVERSATION BETTER, IS IT MOVING CLOSER TO THEM. THAT'S IMPORTANT PART OF THE RELATIONSHIP IS EXPRESS WHAT WE NEED.

>> FEMALE PANELIST: SOMETIMES THAT'S IT'S IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND.

>> MALE PANELIST: SOMETIMES ON THAT NOTE. THERE ARE TIMES WHEN I THOUGHT I GOT WHAT SHE SAID. MAYBE I UNDERSTOOD WHAT SHE SAID AND THEN IT'S NOT.

SO THERE ARE TIMES WHEN WE THOUGHT WE UNDERSTOOD EACH OTHER.

COUPLE OF NOTE FOR ME IS I TRY TO APPRECIATE THE HEARING I HAVE AND NOT THE HEARING LOSS. THAT SEEMED TO HELP ME AND APPRECIATE WHAT I CAN HEAR AND LEVERAGE OUT AS MUCH AS I CAN TO HELP ANY COMMUNICATIONS I HAVE WITH PEOPLE.

I THINK THE THING THAT HELPED OUR RELATIONSHIP, AND ACTUALLY ALL OF YOU GUYS, I CAME HERE ABOUT A YEAR AND A HALF AGO I LEARNED SO MUCH THROUGH THE CHAPTER. I CAN GO HOME, GO TO WORK, SEE MY FAMILY AND I

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REMEMBER THE THINGS THAT I LEARNED HERE JUST BY TALKING TO ALL OF YOU HAVE HELPED ME MANY, MANY WAYS. I'M NOT TRYING TO PROVIDE FREE MARKETING HERE, BUT IN REALITY IT'S BEEN AN INCREDIBLE CHAPTER.

I WAS REALLY STRUGGLING INTERNALLY BEFORE. SO I REALLY APPRECIATE THIS CHAPTER. AND I'M MORE CONFIDENT NOW.

>> DANA: AGAIN. SUPPORT. SUPPORT. SUPPORT. FIND IT. USE IT. AND DON'T BE AFRAID TO ASK FOR IT. PERFECT.

>> MALE PANELIST: WHAT'S THE QUESTION?

>> DANA: THE QUESTION IS, IS THERE ANYTHING THAT YOU WANT TO ADD THAT WE DIDN'T COVER THAT'S IMPORTANT IN YOUR RELATIONSHIP THAT HELPS OUT WITH HEARING LOSS/NON-HEARING LOSS ISSUES.

>> MALE PANELIST: I JUST TOOK IT UPON MYSELF THAT WHEN WE GO TO A RESTAURANT OR WHEN WE ARE TRAVELING, I THINK IT'S MY JOB TO KIND OF GET A FEEL FOR THE ROOM. LIKE THE SECRET SERVICE GO BEFORE THE PRESIDENT.

CAN SHE SIT HERE OR THERE?

LAST YEAR WE WENT CROSS COUNTRY, I COULDN'T FIGURE OUT THE CAPTION AND I'M READING THE MANUAL. AND THAT MAKES IT EASIER FOR US.

AND I WANT TO SAY SOME THING ABOUT CAPTION. AFTER A WHILE YOU CAN'T WATCH WITHOUT CAPTION.

WE WERE WATCHING "THE WIRE" AND WATCHED THE FIRST FIVE YEAR OR SO AND WE STARTED WATCHING IT AGAIN. I GO WHOA. NOW I UNDERSTAND THE STORY.

THAT'S ANOTHER BENEFIT TO CAPTIONS.

>> DANA: THAT'S A HUGE TESTIMONY TO WHAT YOU WILL DO IN YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO MAKE IT WORK. I KNOW OF SOME PEOPLE WHO HAVE PARTNERS REDUCE TO HAVE THE PARTNER TO HAVE THE CAPTIONS ON BECAUSE IT TAKES AWAY FROM THE EXPERIENCE.

>> MALE PANELIST: SOMETIMES WE HAVE FRIENDS OVER AND THEY WILL SAY SOMETHING.

>> FEMALE PANELIST: UNLESS IT'S FOOTBALL. I DO NOT CARE ABOUT THAT.

>> MALE PANELIST: DO THEY PLAY THE CURSE WORD IN CAPTION?

>> MALE PANELIST: NO. NETFLIX DOES.

>> FEMALE PANELIST: WHAT'S HELPFUL WHEN WE FIRST GOT TO KNOW EACH OTHER. IT WAS MAKING SURE THERE'S CAPTION AND MAKING SURE I CAN HEAR.

IN MY DATING HISTORY, IT COULD BE PEOPLE WOULD GET ANNOYED WITH CAPTION. I DON'T KNOW IF THEY REALIZE THAT IT'S VERY INSENSITIVE TO SAY THAT. YOU HAVE THE REST OF YOUR LIFE ON YOUR OWN TIME WITHOUT CAPTION FOR TV AND THIS IS WHAT I NEED.

AND JUST BEING WITH SOMEONE KIND OF ACCEPTS IT.

I GUESS IN MY MIND I DON'T THINK IT'S A BIG DEAL. AND I DON'T HAVE TO HAVE INSENSITIVE OF BEING IN A RELATIONSHIP WITH HEARING LOSS.

SOMEONE USE IT AS AN EXCUSE TO BREAK OFF A RELATIONSHIP WITH ME.

THEY GOT TIRED TO BLAST THE MUSIC IN THE CAR OR TO BE IN A RESTAURANT WHERE I CAN'T HEAR. I THOUGHT THAT WAS REALLY LOW.

I REALLY APPRECIATE DOUG THAT MUCH MORE. I'VE SEEN THE WORSE OF IT AND IT'S REFRESHING FOR ME. AND IT'S NICE TO HAVE SOMEONE LIKE THAT, WHICH IS DOUG.

>> DANA: GONE. YOU'RE GONE.

>> MALE PANELIST: I HAVE TO AGREE WITH ALEX HERE. WE HAVE A LOT OF OTHER THINGS THAT WE GOT TO DEAL WITH IN OUR LIFE. AND I DON'T THINK HER HEARING LOSS REALLY EVER COMES UP. IT'S NOT AN ISSUE. WE KNOW, WE MADE THAT ADJUSTMENT AS FAR AS I KNOW.

SHE DOESN'T REALIZE HOW MUCH INNER STRENGTH SHE HAS AT TIMES. I PUSH HER AND JUST KEEP GOING NO MATTER WHAT. AND SHE DOES. AND I HAVE TO TOO.

A LITTLE OVER A YEAR AGO I WAS HOSPITALIZED OVER A WEEK AND I COULDN'T HEAR WHEN I GOT OUT. I THINK IT WAS MEDICATION. IT SCARED HER MORE THAN SCARED ME. BUT AT LEAST I KNOW WHAT TO DO BECAUSE OF HER EXPERIENCE. THAT WAS A BENEFIT TO US.

YOU JUST LEARN TO DEAL WITH IT AND I THANK, GOD I GOT IT BACK AND EVERYTHING.

AND YEAH. I THINK WE'VE GROWN MORE TOGETHER BECAUSE OF THAT. AND NOW I REALIZE HOW MUCH WE NEED EACH OTHER.

>> FEMALE PANELIST: AND THE MEDICATION GAVE HIM THE TEMPORARY HEARING LOSS, IT MADE IT WORSE THAN MINE. WHEN I GET UP IN THE MORNING AND NO HEARING AIDS, HE HAD THE TV ON TOO LOUD FOR ME.

I'M GLAD HE HAD HIS HEARING BACK BUT IF NOT, WE KNOW WHERE TO GET HELP.

I CAN GET THE TELEVISION ADAPTER.

>> MALE PANELIST: I HATE THAT.

>> FEMALE PANELIST: IT GOES 40%. WE ARE NOT ABLE TO HEAR EACH OTHER WELL WITH 30%.

THE DOCTOR SAID IF HE NEEDS TO HAVE THE HEARING AID WE NEED TO MAKE SURE THAT YOU GUYS GET THE SAME TYPE.

>> DANA: EXCELLENT. THANK YOU. AND I THINK ONE OF THE THINGS WHAT YOU SAID WAS REALLY TOUCHING.

SOME OF YOU MAY REMEMBER BERNIE WHO WAS HERE. HE PASSED AWAY. WE DID THIS MIX COUPLES THING AND IT WAS QUESTION/ANSWER TIME AND HE SAID I JUST WANT TO SAY WHAT YOU GUYS HAVE IN COMMON UP THERE IS LOVE. AND YOU GUYS, YOU HAVE THAT GOING, THAT'S WHAT'S PUSHING YOU AND DRIVING YOU TO COMMUNICATE WITH THIS PERSON.

RELATIONSHIPS ARE HARD. PERIOD. AND WHEN YOU THROW IN A MIX, A CHALLENGE, IT MAKES IT HARDER. TO HAVE THAT LOVE, THE AFFECTION, TO MAKE SURE THE OTHER PERSON IS DOING WELL IS HUGE.

I WANT TO THANK YOU ALL FOR BEING PART OF THAT. AND NOW I OPEN TO QUESTIONS.

>> PAT: OUR NEW ONES. DAVE.

>> DAVE: I WAS RECENTLY TRAVELLED WITH MY PARTNER. AND I FOUND THE EXPERIENCE OF BEING IN AIRPORTS AND NOISY RESTAURANTS THAT WE GO FROM. AND MY PARTNER IS INTERPRETING FOR ME OFTENTIMES WHEN IT'S REALLY NOISY. AND I'M FEELING STUPID. I'M STANDING THERE AND NOT RESPONDING QUESTIONS FROM THE CASHIER AND HE HAS TO STEP IN. AND THAT'S THE RESPONSE I HAVE.

AND SECOND THING IS I'M FINDING I'M LAZY. IN OTHER WORDS, I'M SENDING SINCE HE'S HEARING BETTER THAN I AM, I DON'T HAVE TO BOTHER. I'M IRRITATED WITH MYSELF BECAUSE I'M NOT PAYING ATTENTION WHEN I REALLY SHOULD BE. ANYWAY. I'M INTERESTED TO HEAR OTHER PEOPLE'S THOUGHTS ON THAT.

>> DANA: I WANT TO TOUCH ON THAT. YOUR FEELING OF STUPID. WE ALL HAVE THAT. AND IT'S A SWITCH THAT WE NEED TO DO IN OR HEAD. WE ARE NOT STUPID. NOT A SINGLE PERSON IN THIS ROOM IS STUPID.

IT'S SOMETHING THAT OUR BRAIN, OUR EAR IS NOT WORKING CORRECTLY AND WE ARE NOT UNDERSTANDING. THAT'S IT. WE ARE NOT STUPID AND WE NEED TO CLARIFY TO WHOMEVER THAT POINT ACROSS.

EVERY TIME YOU HAVE THAT THOUGHT, PLEASE DO THE SWITCH. I'M NOT HEARING, I'M NOT UNDERSTANDING.

SO DID ANY OF YOU HAVE ANY RESPOND TO THAT?

>> I WANT TO COMMENT ON DAVE'S COMMENT. I LEARNED A LOT ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS. SO THANK YOU GUYS VERY MUCH.

ONE THING THAT I NOTICED ABOUT MYSELF AND I KIND OF REALIZE THIS IS THAT I DO THE SAME THING IS IF I GET IN SITUATIONS I'M ALWAYS TRYING TO GET THINGS DONE, ACCOMPLISH THINGS, AND IF LISA'S WITH ME, MY GIRLFRIEND, IF I STRUGGLE SOMETIMES I DO NOT REACT IN A VERY POSITIVE WAY. I GET FRUSTRATED JUST LIKE WHAT YOU WERE DESCRIBING.

AND SO FOR ME THAT IS A PROBLEM THAT I NEED TO COME TO GRIPS WITH IN HOW TO REACT. SOMETIMES I DO NOT REACT POSITIVELY. IT EFFECTS LISA AND SHE GETS UPSET AND I GET UPSET.

SO IT'S REALLY, ONE OF THE TOUGHEST THINGS ABOUT HEARING LOSS IS BEHAVIOR CHANGE.

AND HOW TO COPE AND HANDLE THAT, HOW DO YOU CHANGE YOUR OWN BEHAVIOR AND REACT IN A POSITIVE WAY SO IT DOESN'T NEGATIVELY IMPACT OTHER PEOPLE THAT ARE AROUND YOU.

AND THE SAME WAY HOW DOES YOUR PARTNER CHANGE THEIR BEHAVIOR EVEN SIMPLE THINGS LIKE THE CAPTION ON THE TV, THAT SHOULD BE A NO BRAINER. BUT IT'S BEHAVIOR CHANGE. WE'VE GONE THROUGH A WHOLE LIFE WITHOUT WATCHING CAPTION AND IT'S NOT AN EXCUSE BUT IT IS ABOUT BEHAVIOR CHANGING.

CAN THEY ACCOMMODATE YOU AND HELP YOU OUT.

AND RELATIONSHIPS ARE TOUGH.

AND IT MAKES IT MORE DIFFICULT IF YOU ARE NOT ABLE TO GET THROUGH

THAT.

BUT IT'S A, RELATIONSHIPS ALSO IS A JOURNEY.  
AND NEVER ENDING WORK.

>> DANA: DO ANY OF YOU WANT TO RESPOND WITH THAT?

>> FEMALE PANELIST: I WANT TO RESPOND TO DAVE. ANYBODY WHO GOES TO GET HEARING AID, COCHLEAR IMPLANTS OR OTHER HEARING DEVICES ISN'T STUPID. OH, THERE'S SOMETHING I'M NOT DOING AS WELL AS I LIKE AND I WANT TO GO SEE WHAT I CAN DO BETTER.

SO EVERYONE SITTING IN THIS ROOM IS NOT STUPID BECAUSE YOU ARE SEEKING HELP.

>> DANA: IT'S VERY BRAVE.

DID ANYBODY ELSE?

>> I WANT TO RESPOND TO YOU. I THINK WHAT YOU ARE DOING IS YOU ARE TUNING OUT BECAUSE YOU CAN'T HEAR. AND IT'S A BIG EFFORT FOR YOU TO UNDERSTAND AND HEAR. SO YOU ARE LETTING YOUR FRIEND DO THE COMMUNICATING FOR YOU. AND I UNDERSTAND WHERE YOU ARE COMING FROM.

BUT AT THE SAME TIME MAYBE THAT'S A CUE FOR YOU, DO YOU WEAR HEARING AIDS?

ARE THEY HELPFUL TO YOU?

>> A LITTLE BIT.

>> OKAY. ARE YOU A NEW PERSON WITH HEARING LOSS?

>> FOUR TO FIVE YEARS.

>> DO YOU READ LIPS?

>> NO.

>> YOU ARE HAVING A HARDER TIME ADJUSTING FOR HEARING LOSS BECAUSE IT'S A HUGE EFFORT FOR YOU.

JUST KEEP COMING TO OUR MEETING AND LISTEN TO ALL WHAT WE HAVE TO SAY AND ASK QUESTIONS.

BUT MAYBE YOU KIND OF LIKE TUNING OUT, MAYBE HEARING AID NEEDS, MAYBE YOU NEED A BETTER HEARING AID.

>> YES.

>> SOMETHING LIKE THAT THAT MAYBE A KEY TO YOU THAT SOMETHING'S A LITTLE OFF. THAT'S MY RECOMMENDATION.

>> PAT: UP HERE.

>> DANA: I'M TRYING TO KEEP TRACK HERE.

I LOVE THAT YOU BROUGHT THAT UP, GEORGIA. I THINK WE NEED TO CONSTANTLY BE NICE TO OURSELVES AND PAT OURSELVES ON OUR BACK FOR TRYING. AND THAT GOES TO OR HEARING PARTNER TOO. KINDNESS TO OURSELVES.

>> I WANT TO COMMENT ON A SITUATION.

I'VE WORE HEARING AID SINCE I WAS 6. AND MY HUSBAND FOR OVER 40 YEARS USED TO HAVE VERY ACUTE HEARING. AND OVER THE LAST COUPLE OF YEARS HE STARTED LOSING HIS HEARING WITH AGE. AND I FIND THAT I'M IMPATIENT WITH HIM. THE WHOLE THING I HAVE TO SCHOOL MYSELF INTO BOTH



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BEING HARD-OF-HEARING PERSON AND DEALING WITH SOMEBODY ELSE. AND IT'S A WHOLE NEW SET OF EXPERIENCES FOR ME. I HOPE IT DOESN'T HAPPEN TO ANY OF YOU.

>> PAT: I WILL GET LILY AND BACK TO YOU TOO.

>> DANA: I THINK THAT'S TRUE. I THINK THAT'S A REAL EXPERIENCE.

I KNOW I HAVE TROUBLE AS WELL. EVERY TIME I'M WITH PEOPLE WHO ARE HEARING LOSS, WE ARE PUTTING MORE EFFORT BEING HEARD. SO IT'S A STRUGGLE ALL AROUND.

>> THOSE OF YOU WHO WERE AT THE CHRISTMAS PARTY KNEW I FELL. AND EVERYTHING'S FINE.

BUT I SO APPRECIATIVE OF ALL THE CONCERNS AND PEOPLE CALLING ME AND TELLING ME AND CARING.

AND THAT'S WHAT I FEEL WHEN I COME TO THIS MEETING.

>> LILLIAN, YOU NEED TO PUT IT IN FRONT OF YOUR MOUTH.

>> I WANT TO THANK EVERYBODY WHO WITNESSED MY CRAZY FALL AT THE PARTY. AND I APPRECIATE EVERYONE'S CONCERN AND THIS IS A GREAT PLACE TO COME TO EVERY MONTH. THIS IS A VERY CARING GROUP.

[ APPLAUSE ]

>> DANA: THIS IS A VERY CARING GROUP.

>> REAL QUICK COPING AWAY. IF SOMEONE IS TALKING TO YOU AND YOU MISS PART OF IT, DON'T JUST SAY WHAT.

WHICH PART.

I KNOW YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT THE CAR BUT I MISSED THE LAST SENTENCE.

SO BE SPECIFIC ON THE PART THAT YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, THAT WAY IT WILL BE LESS FRUSTRATING FOR BOTH OF YOU.

>> I WANT TO COMMENT WHEN YOU WERE SAYING YOU BEING LAZY AND I CAN RELATE TO THAT.

IN MY PREVIOUS RELATIONSHIP I WAS WITH SOMEONE WHO HAS NORMAL HEARING. AND IT'S EASY FOR THEM TO TAKE CARE OF THINGS. CALLING THE CABLE COMPANY AND TAKING CARE OF STUFF. SO I GET LAZY. SO NOW I'M WITH KEN, WHO HAS HEARING LOSS. AND I CAN RELATE TO BOTH SIDES OF THE STORY NOW.

I CAN TOTALLY RELATE TO WHAT YOU SAY. I FIND MYSELF GETTING REALLY FRUSTRATED. HE'S NOT LOOKING UP ON HIS PHONE WHEN I'M TALKING TO HIM, HE NEEDS TO LOOK AT MY MOUTH. I GET PISSED. WHY IS HE ASKING ME DIRECTIONS WHILE DRIVING AND HE CAN'T HEAR ME. I FIND MYSELF GETTING FRUSTRATED. SO IT'S INTERESTING GETTING OTHER SIDE OF IT. IT TAKES A LOT OF PATIENTS. SO I DO ACKNOWLEDGE TO THE PARTNERS THAT HAVE NORMAL HEARING. BECAUSE IT TAKES A LOT OF PATIENCE.

WE DO NEED TO RECOGNIZE WHEN STRESSFUL SITUATION COME UP, LIKE KEN WAS SAYING, WE BOTH GET FRUSTRATED BECAUSE WE BOTH HAVE HEARING LOSS.

AND WE GOT INTO A BIG FIGHT THE OTHER NIGHT BECAUSE WE WERE

CALLING TIME WARNER.

[LAUGHTER].

AND THE CAPTION PHONE WASN'T GOOD. SO WE GOT INTO A HUGE FIGHT. WE REALIZED THAT WE PROBABLY SHOULDN'T HAVE TALKED TO EACH OTHER WHEN WE CAUGHT OFF THE PHONE.

WE COULDN'T HEARING ANYTHING. THE CAPTION SUCKED.

PROBABLY SHOULD HAVE JUST STAYED AWAY FROM EACH OTHER AND SAID GOOD NIGHT.

SO SOMETIMES IT'S NOT ABOUT EACH OTHER. IT'S ABOUT WHATEVER THE FRUSTRATING SITUATION IS. AND FOR US IT'S OFTEN RELATED TO HEARING LOSS.

REALIZING IS THIS THE BEST TIME TO DEAL WITH THIS.

>> DANA: EXCELLENT. I LOVE THAT YOU FOCUS ON THAT. IT'S NOT ALWAYS ABOUT WHAT SEEMS TO BE HAPPENING. IT'S ALL STRESS WE ARE, HOW FRUSTRATING SOMETHING IS. SO THANK YOU.

>> I JUST WANT TO SAY TOO WHEN YOU ARE DEALING WITH TECHNOLOGY OF ANY KIND THAT CAN ADD A WHOLE LAYER OF STRESS. BECAUSE OF TIME WARNER OR DIRECTV OR WHOMEVER, THE CAPTIONS, ALL THOSE THINGS ARE DESIGNED TO HELP US BUT SOMETIMES IT'S THE SOURCE OF FRUSTRATION. SO SOMETIMES WE HAVE TO STEP BACK FROM THAT.

AND I WANT TO SAY ON MY HEARING AIDS I HAVE FOUR PROGRAMS. I LISTEN TO THE LOOP THROUGH. BUT IT HAS MIC AND T-COIL. AND THAT MIGHT HELP YOU HEAR THE TV.

>> FEMALE PANELIST: IT DOES HAVE THAT. IT'S JUST GETTING USED TO IT.

>> HERE LISTENING TO THE LOOP, SOMETIMES YOU CAN TURN ON THE T-COIL SO THAT YOU CAN ONLY HEAR T-COIL.

YOU CAN ALSO HAVE YOUR AUDIOLOGIST SET SO THAT YOU CAN HEAR BOTH. AND IT'S INTERESTING WAY TO HEAR. A LITTLE BIT OF EVERYTHING.

LOTS OF TECHNOLOGY OUT THERE TO SUPPORT AND MIGHT BE BENEFICIAL.

SO ON ANOTHER MEETING, I TOLD YOU, YOU HAVE TO COME BACK, WE WILL TALK ABOUT TECHNOLOGY AND WHATNOT THAT IS HELPFUL TO OTHER PEOPLE AND WHAT THEY ARE USING.

>> I WAS ON TOP OF THE TIME WARNER I THINK. I JUST WANTED TO SAY THAT.

[LAUGHTER].

>> PAT: I'M SORRY. WE DO HAVE TO WRAP. I KNOW WE CAN STAY ANOTHER 6 HOURS TALKING ABOUT EXPERIENCES AND WE FIND THE COMMONALITY THAT WE ALL HAVE.

I'LL SAY IT AGAIN, THAT'S WHAT COMING TO THESE MEETINGS SO GOOD. IT'S FAMILY. BUT YOU KNOW, YOU ARE STRUGGLING WITH YOUR OWN SITUATION. BUT WHEN YOU HEAR COME BACK FROM SOMEBODY ELSE, ALL OF A SUDDEN, I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU BUT MY SHOULDERS RELAX. I FEEL LIKE OH, IT'S NOT JUST ME. AND IT JUST EMPOWERS ME WHEN I LEAVE THIS ROOM. AND I FEEL MORE SECURED IN MYSELF WITH THAT I CAN GO OUT IN THE WORLD. BECAUSE I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE FEELING THIS WAY. AND WE HAVE OUR GOOD DAYS AND WE

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HAVE OUR BAD DAYS. WE HAVE SUCCESSFUL AND WE HAVE FAILURES.

BUT COME BACK AGAIN. WE RAN OUT OF TIME. WE GET YOU BACK HERE AGAIN NEXT TIME.

I WANT TO THANK DANA AND ALL OUR PANEL MEMBERS FOR GIVES US YOUR TIME AND YOUR THOUGHTS TODAY.

PLEASE COME BACK NEXT MONTH AND TALK ABOUT HOW YOU WANT TO SEE OUR GROUP, OUR FAMILY MOVE FORWARD.

I'M EXCITED ABOUT ALL POSSIBILITIES.

I AM SO EXCITED FOR YOU TO SEE OUR NEW WEBSITE. YOU ARE JUST GOING TO BE REALLY HAPPY AND BE ABLE TO GET INFORMATION AND STUFF.

SO THANK YOU, JOANNE FOR CAPTIONING, THANK YOU AGAIN FOR ALL YOUR HELP. IF YOU CAN HELP US, KIND OF GET THE ROOM BACK TOGETHER AGAIN. BY PICKING UP YOUR CHAIRS. NOT THE ONES AROUND THE TABLE.

BUT THE ONES ON THE OUTSIDE.

AND I ALMOST FORGOT, REAL FAST. I PROMISED CHRIS, HE CAN SAY SOMETHING TODAY.

CHRIS IS ONE OF OUR CHAPTER MEMBERS.

>> HELLO, MY NAME IS CHRIS. I'M NOT GOING TO TAKE TOO MUCH OF YOUR TIME. BUT WE ARE WORKING WITH WORLD COMEDY STUDIO TO HAVE A LOOPED COMEDY SHOW. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IT'S GOING ON THIS SATURDAY, 8:00 O'CLOCK, GIVE ME YOUR E-MAIL OR GET INFORMATION, OH, IT'S AT 6:00. SORRY.

IT'S AT 6:00 P.M. TODAY. SO IF YOU ARE INTERESTED AND WATCHING A LOOPED COMEDY SHOW, COME SEE ME AFTER. THERE ARE FEW LIMITATIONS. IT'S NOT GOING TO BE CAPTIONED. JUST GIVING YOU HEADS UP.

IF YOU WORK WELL WITH LOOP SYSTEMS, YOU ARE GOING TO DO FINE.

IT'S GOING TO BE A REALLY SMALL ROOM, SO I DON'T THINK YOU WILL HAVE HARD TIME HEARING THE COMEDIANS. INCLUDING ME. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED COME SEE ME AFTER.

[ APPLAUSE ]

>> PAT: IT'S GETTING BETTER ALL THE TIME. GO SEE A MOVIE, A PLAY, CHRIS' PERFORMANCE BECAUSE WE ARE GETTING ACCOMMODATIONS WHETHER IT'S LOOP OR CAPTION. COME BACK. LEARN MORE. THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH. WE WILL SEE YOU IN 4 WEEKS.

[ APPLAUSE ]

(MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:06 P.M.)