

NAME: VICTORIA EICKELBERG DISCIPLINE: PUBLIC HEALTH

## Past/current experiences working in the field of disabilities:

From a young age I have been involved in the field of disabilities as I have a brother with special needs. Our lives have always been very much entwined as he's only a year older than me. I have attended most of his therapy sessions, school events, extracurriculars, medical appointments, etc. His journey has exposed me to many of the challenges and successes that children with special needs encounter, such as, health care transitions, working with a complex team of healthcare providers, and the period of transitioning from child to adult services. I continue to involve myself in the field of disabilities as I interact with children with neurodevelopmental disabilities, actively advocate for my brother, and frequently observe my sister who is a pediatric OT.

## **Goals for your LEND training experience:**

I hope to develop my leadership skills in a new capacity by learning from a group of multidisciplinary professionals. Additionally, I look forward to learning how to approach neurodevelopmental disabilities in a culturally competent manner. In general, I look forward to new experiences that offer me the tools and strategies to better serve this population in a team environment.

## What you wish to contribute, in the future, as a professional/family member in the field:

I wish to become a public health professional and leading advocate for children with neurodevelopmental disabilities and their families. I hope to ensure equitable systems of care that include adequate transition services. Further in the future, I hope to become a physician that utilizes a public health lens to serve children with special health care needs and their families.