**Partnerships to challenge poverty: A co-design approach to partnering with lived experience\* during a pandemic**

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Following the pioneering work of the disability and mental health consumer, we are seeing an increasing portion of the community service sector wanting to partner with people with lived experience people. Questions for the sector now arise as to how they can best adapt and learn, while co-designing these partnerships.

This presentation explores what can happen when policy officers from the Councils of Social Service and lived experience advocates from around the nation come together to co-design a lived experience partnership framework.

We will also discuss the experience of advocates during the COVID-19 pandemic and how, even in times of crisis, it is stillpossible and more important than ever to implement good practice of co-design with lived experience.

Taking a human rights approach to making social change, we will explore what a productive and meaningful partnership framework looks like from the perspective of lived experience advocates and policy officers within the context of poverty and system change. We will introduce participants to the principles and practices as outlined in the framework.

\*Lived experience is expertise gained from having a specific life experience. This ‘*context expertise’* contrasts with academic or ‘*content expertise’*.