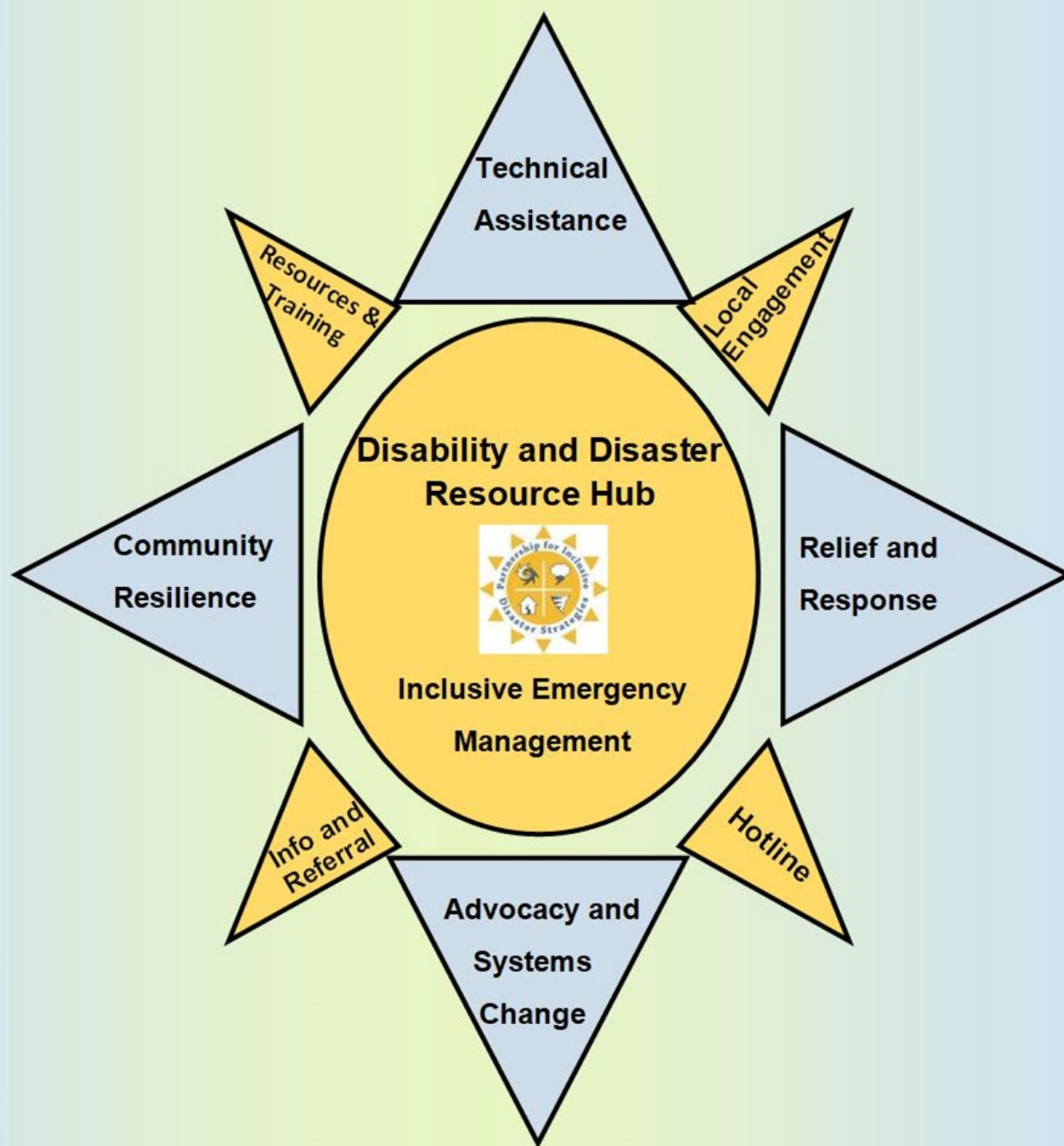




THE PARTNERSHIP
FOR INCLUSIVE DISASTER STRATEGIES

**The one and only disability-led,
Disaster and Disability Resource Hub.**



One-Stop Shop

Disability and Disaster Resource Hub

Our Mission

The mission of The Partnership for Inclusive Disaster Strategies (The Partnership) is equal access to emergency programs and services for people with disabilities and people with access and functional needs before, during, and after disasters.

We achieve our mission through:

- ❖ Unwavering support for local disability organizations
- ❖ Community engagement, organizing and leadership development
- ❖ Advocacy and public policy
- ❖ Training and education
- ❖ Research and technical assistance
- ❖ Disability-led disaster response and community resilience



Our Team



Co-Executive Directors

Shaylin Sluzalis and Germán Parodi



Director of Operations
Melissa Marshall, J.D.



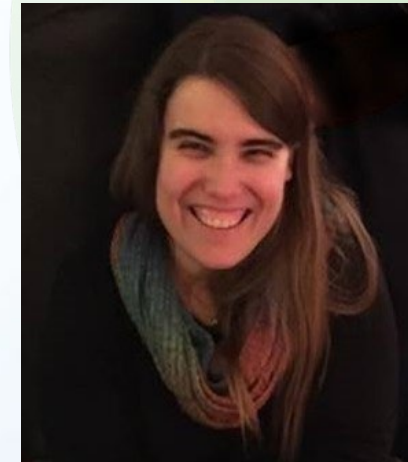
Executive Assistant
Priya Penner



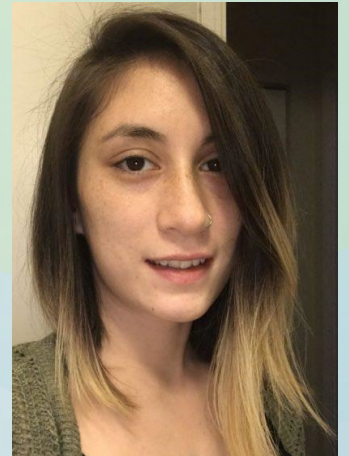
**Media and Access
Compliance Manager**
Stephanie Hydal



Hotline Manager
Colleen Roche



IT Support
Jessica Snowadzky



Our Board

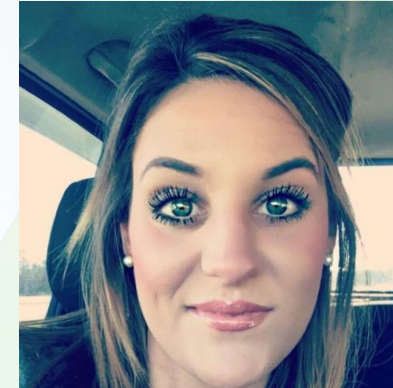
Board President
Milagros “Millie” Gonzalez



Board Treasurer
Jahmilah “Bianca” Waliddin



Board Secretary
Katie Pechon



Board Member
Marcie Roth



Board Member
Michael “Mike” Oxford



Our History

2016

- The Partnership was incorporated, and acted as a program of our founding organization, [Portlight Strategies](#) (which led humanitarian response and relief initiatives to meet the needs of disaster-impacted disabled communities for over 20 years) to focus on disability-inclusive emergency management, community organizing, policy, advocacy, and training.

2017

- Activated the Disability and Disaster Hotline in response to Hurricane Harvey.
- Deployed a disability-led team to Puerto Rico in response to Hurricane Maria and Hurricane Irma.

2018

- Assisted disaster-impacted people with disabilities through remote technical assistance and information/referral in response to Hurricanes Michael and Florence.
- Getting It Right National Inclusive Emergency Management Conference.

2019

- Leadership change at The Partnership.
- The Partnership received its 501(c)3 recognition under the IRS, becoming independent of Portlight, with Portlights' legacy of direct disaster relief functions absorbed into The Partnership as our "Portlight Relief Division."
- Deployed a disabled-led team to the Bahamas in response to Hurricane Dorian.

Our History

2020

- Increased our organization's capacity by on-boarding our staff/team.
- Provided remote technical assistance to disaster-impacted people with disabilities in Puerto Rico in response to the major earthquakes.
- Third deployment of disabled-led team to Bahamas most impacted Island in response to Hurricane Dorian.
- Active since February 28, 2020 in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
 - National Disability Rights [Call To Action](#)
 - Daily COVID-19 Disability Rights Calls
 - Resource Center and Technical Assistance
 - Disability & Disaster Hotline as an Information/Referral Hub
- Responded to Concurrent Disasters through remote technical assistance and information/referral to disaster-impacted people with disabilities and disability-led organizations.
 - Hurricanes Laura, Sally, Teddy, Delta, Eta, and Iota
 - Wildfires in California, Oregon, Washington, Colorado
 - Iowa Derecho and Tornadoes
- Initiated our [COVID-19 Community-Wide Resilience Initiative](#).
- 2020 Newsletter: [Year In Review](#)

- COVID-19 Advocacy, Response, and Technical Assistance.
 - National Disability Rights [Call To Action: A Year Later](#)
- Responding to Extreme Winter Weather in the South (Texas, Tennessee, Mississippi) through remote technical assistance and information/referral to disaster-impacted people with disabilities and disability-led organizations.
- **Still building our plane as we fly it!**

2021

Publications, Listings, Events

Publications:

The Partnership: [Report: Failures in COVID-19 Response Harm People with Disabilities and Older Adults](#)

Trust for America's Health: [Ready or Not 2020: Protecting the Public's Health from Diseases, Disasters and Bioterrorism](#) - pg. 30-31

NCD: [Preserving Our Freedom: Ending Institutionalization of People with Disabilities During and After Disasters](#)

The Partnership: [Getting It Wrong: An Indictment with a Blueprint for Getting It Right](#)

Listings:

CDC: [List of COVID-19 Resources for People with Disabilities](#)

FEMA: [Addendum: Delivering Personal Assistance Services in Congregate and Non-Congregate Sheltering](#)

Events:

DHS CRCL: [Disability Community Stakeholder Listening Session](#)

CDC: National Forum on COVID-19 Vaccine: [Practitioner Town Hall - Reducing Barriers to Equitable Access](#)

PAHO: [Recommendations for the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in the Response to COVID-19](#)

Juneteenth Congressional Briefing: [Inequality and Disproportionate Impacts of COVID Response](#)

Our Core Values



Our core values of equal access, inclusion, independence, and commitment to civil rights protections continually guide our work towards a future where community readiness is achieved and sustained for everyone through a shared and unwavering commitment to accessibility, universal design, and reasonable accommodation/modification before, during, and after disasters.

Experience has shown us that these values of equal access, inclusion, independence, and commitment to civil rights protections are imperatives for achieving and sustaining community-wide disaster resilience.

Why Us

The Partnership

- ➡ Leads Inclusive Change
- ➡ Navigates Complex Systems
- ➡ Eliminates Barriers

With a focused purpose to empower and assist

- ➡ People with Disabilities
- ➡ People with Access and Functional Needs (including older adults)
- ➡ Multiply-Marginalized Individuals and Communities
- ➡ Disability-led Organizations

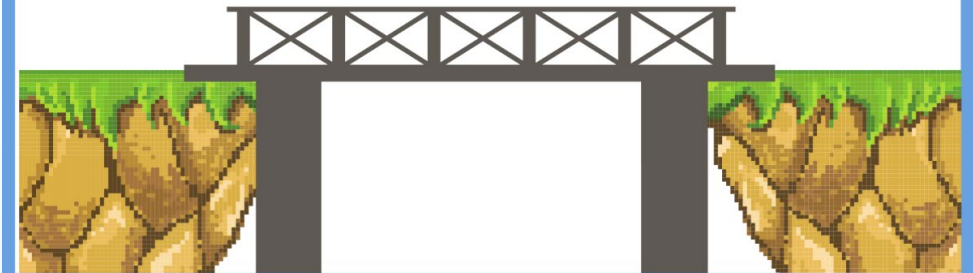
There is a large gap between Disabled people and emergency planners and responders.



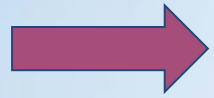
This is especially true for people who live in institutional settings, like nursing facilities, group homes, & prisons.



The Partnership for Inclusive Disaster Strategies is a disability-led organization that builds bridges between emergency planners and people with disabilities.



How We Do It



Technical Assistance



Information, Resources, Referrals



Navigating Emergency Management



Customized Trainings



Gap Analysis



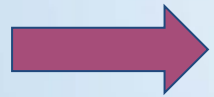
Continuity of Operations Plans



Exercises and Drills



Conferences



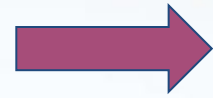
Relief and Response



Disability and Disaster Hotline



Disabled-led Deployment

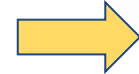


Community Resilience



Daily COVID-19 Disability Rights Calls

Bringing disability-led organizations, emergency managers, public health officials, first responders, advocates, and allies together daily to address disability-related rising issues, good and promising practices, and information and resource sharing related to the COVID-19 pandemic.



Weekly National Stakeholder Calls

Since Hurricane Harvey we have held weekly National Stakeholder Calls where a wide range of stakeholders with the shared interest in the disaster related rights and needs of people with disabilities engage with one another.



Local Engagement

When disasters strike we reach out to disability-led organizations and allies in the impacted and surrounding areas to set up disabled-led and disability focused emergency operation center calls where a wide range of partners collectively address the rights and needs of disabled people.



Advocacy and Systems Change

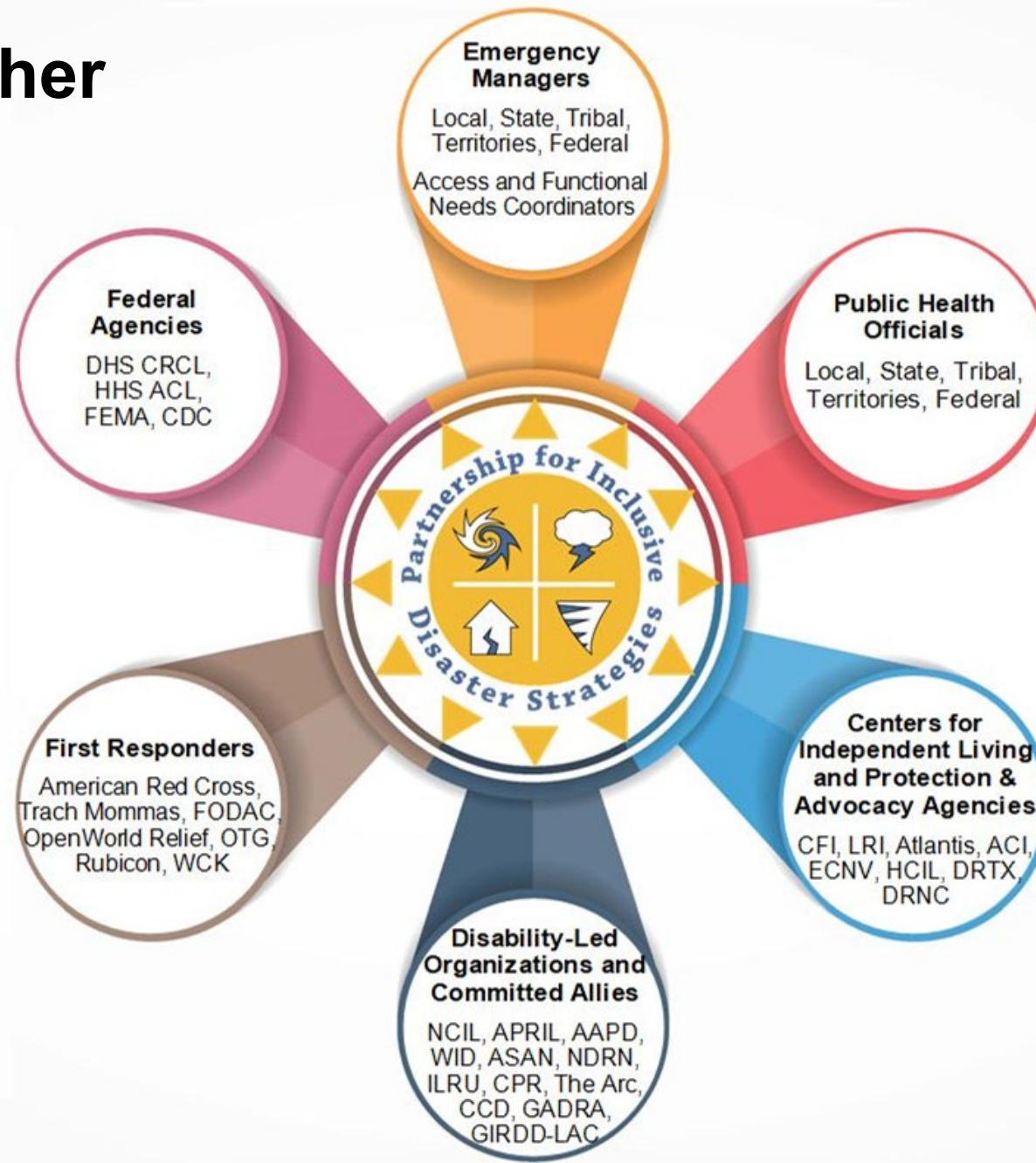


Advocate and Educate Program and Policy Change



Drive changes that proactively assure compliance with civil rights obligations before, during, and after disasters

We Bring Together



Why We Do This

People with disabilities are **2-to-4 times** more likely to **die or be injured** in a disaster, emergency, or crisis than non-disabled people. - United Nations

This is largely due to lack of equal access to information, resources, and services before, during, and after disasters.

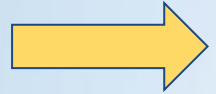
The Partnership is the only organization focused solely on the rights and needs of people with disabilities throughout disasters, emergencies, and crises.

What Is The Opportunity

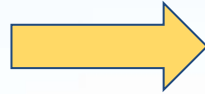
Ongoing funding for The Partnership to sustain this life-saving work



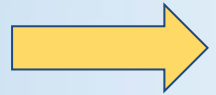
What Your Support Will Do



Increase Our Capacity



Make Our Shop a Free Resource Hub



Strengthen Our Hotline



Make Our Community Calls Fully Accessible

This Equates To

Empowering
Local
Community
Resilience

Saving
Lives

Connecting
Tools/Resource
s to People Most
Impacted

Contact Us



112 N. 8th Street, Suite 600, Philadelphia PA 19107

Disability & Disaster Hotline: 800.626.4959 or info@disasterstrategies.org

Contact Our Co-Executive Directors

Shaylin Sluzalis & Germán Parodi: directors@disasterstrategies.org
570.777.0268 & 215.971.0660

Follow Us

