



Shine A Light:
Fostering Development Across
Domains

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Plenary Presentation
EHDI National Meeting
March 2018

**How did I get to be here, doing a plenary at EHDI?
Perhaps because I couldn't be here... at the Olympics!**



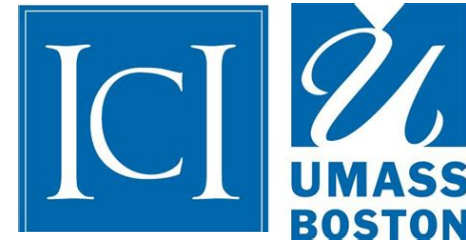
Olympic gymnast Aly Raisman. Photo credit Inquisitir.com

My “Make Myself Seem Credible” Slide

- Psychologist
- Faculty, Leadership Education & Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND)
- Instructor, Department of Psychiatry
- EHDI is supporting my attendance here



Boston Children's
Hospital



HARVARD
MEDICAL SCHOOL





Rule #1 for Presentating: Know Your Audience



My Assumptions About This Audience

- Passionate
- Involved
- Committed
- Opinionated
- Intelligent
- Overlapping & Shared values



From Then to Now to Next



Shine A Light: Then

Luminaries Changing the World




Before there was 0-3,
there was 4-7...

This is my bright, shiny
moment to thank the
luminaries I have looked
up to my whole life

(I think we all should!)



A photograph of a family of three walking away on a dirt path during sunset. The mother is on the left, wearing a striped shirt and dark pants. The father is on the right, wearing a dark polo shirt and dark pants. A young child in a white dress is walking between them, holding their hands. The background shows a line of trees and a bright sunset sky.

Many Families are THRIVING

We are going a lot of good work!



Shine A Light: Now

Taking Inventory of Where We Are

Signed or
Spoken

Language is a **system of communication**, a **medium for thought**, and a **social interaction**.





LANGUAGE for Connecting & Communicating



LANGUAGE for Thinking and Problem-Solving



LANGUAGE for Understanding Shared Concepts & Experiences



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LANGUAGE for Identifying & Sharing Emotions



LANGUAGE to understand others' perceptions/intentions
& to regulate oneself



Holding the Lantern



Shine A Light: Next

Implementing Lessons Learned & Promoting Positive Growth



Consumers of Research

- Appreciating statistics
- Understanding correlation
- Avoiding “N of 1” thinking
- Considering the lens of the researchers
- Knowing when to accept *average*



Conductors of Research

- Partner with researchers
- Monitor progress
- Maintain fidelity to programs
- Monitor quality of inputs
- Ask good, important, relevant questions



Implementors of Good Policies

- Engage in activism
- Educate and be educated
- Involve stakeholders
- Be open to different perspectives
- Hold systems & representatives accountable



Foster the Next Generation of Luminaries

- Fuel their flames of passion!
- Make room at the table
- Be open to new ideas
- Facilitate networking
- Mentor & cheerlead



Light the Way for Families

- Family-centered
- Child-led/informed
- Respectful of personal experience
- Guided by research & best practices
- Based on collective knowledge

“How can I
end this talk?
Hmm...I
know...Quote
Oprah!”



You have to find what
sparks a light in you so
that you in your own
way can illuminate the
world. - Oprah

FB | Start from the Heart