



National Adult Protective Services Association (NAPSA)

Disability Advisory Group

To Empower and Include People with Disabilities in APS

Why the Disability Advisory Group is Important: *Kecia's Story*

Kecia Weller, as a survivor of several sexual assaults in my lifetime, I personally feel that I wasn't listened to whatsoever. Like when another self-advocate raped me in my own living room, the police department actually took the side of the rapist. The rapist had told the police department that sexual contact between us was consensual! It most definitely wasn't consensual! The police department took the rapist's word on what happened between us and failed to press charges against the rapist. The case manager did not report the case to law enforcement of APS after taking a Special Incident Report.

Bus incident: law enforcement was not interested and held an interview with me in a large, crowded room with someone I was embarrassed to talk in front of. They did not pursue.

As a sexual assault victim, I fell into a deep depression because the system that was supposed to help me deal with my sexual assault had totally failed me. I was in a deep depression for several years until I finally opened up about the sexual assault incident to my service provider. My service provider got me the mental health help I needed to heal from the sexual assaults I've experienced in my lifetime.

Now I'm a much more powerful woman helping to prevent abuse from happening to other individuals. Kecia uses her lived expertise as a sexual assault survivor to be one of the co-founders of NAPSA Disability Interest Advisory Group, co-founder the California Silence=Violence Network, and a member serving on the Disability Rights California PAIMI Advisory Council.