# RPT Sept 17th, 2024 Minutes

- **Discussion - Welcome Back:** The RPT is back in session! We welcomed everyone back to our monthly meetings and reoriented ourselves.
  - Participants introduced themselves, sharing their roles, pronouns, and what they're excited about for the RPT's return.
  - The group reviewed the RPT's history, achievements, and future goals, including improving understanding of the healthcare system, integrating diverse perspectives, and building partnerships.
- **Discussion - Systems Planning:** We will have a facilitated discussion on what systems planning is and how the RPT integrates these principles into its work.
  - We got a reintroduction to systems change and how it involves shifting the component parts of a system and the patterns of interaction between those parts to create a new system that behaves differently.
  - The group discussed how the RPT's composition of both community members and service providers helps integrate systems planning, allowing for diverse perspectives to inform solutions.
  - Examples of systems planning integration were provided, such as the RPT's strategic approach to engaging and recruiting new members based on their ability to drive change within the system.
  - Participants emphasized the importance of understanding the inputs, outputs, and linkages within the complex healthcare system in order to engineer desired outcomes.
- **Activity - Visioning Exercise:** We imagined the future state of the RPT and envisioned the impact of our work together.
  - Participants were guided through a visualization of the RPT's impact in 5 years, imagining a transformed community with vibrant signs of change.
  - In this future vision, healthcare facilities were described as welcoming and inclusive, with staff that reflected the diversity of the community they served.
  - Specific elements highlighted included increased peer support opportunities, well-supported coordinated access models, and expanded mental health and disordered eating support services.
  - Participants envisioned the RPT advocating for and facilitating these changes through its partnerships and systems-level work.

- **Discussion - Capital Pride:** We acknowledged the challenges and tensions that arose over the summer with Capital Pride's statement, and considered what the RPT needs to move forward the discussion in a constructive manner.
  - Overarching Considerations:
    - The group acknowledged the inherent tension between the RPT's role as an advisory body within the healthcare system, versus the more activist approach of organizations like Capital Pride.

- - - There were suggestions to hold a separate meeting dedicated to this discussion, to allow for more open and candid dialogue, especially for community members who may feel more free to share their perspectives.
      - The importance of ensuring emotional safety, respect, and empathy throughout the discussion was emphasized, as well as recognizing the personal and sensitive nature of the topic.
  - Service Provider Perspectives:
      - Several service providers expressed feeling stuck in a difficult position. As employees of organizations, they felt constrained in how openly they could participate in the discussion, as their personal views may not align with their employer's stance.
      - There were concerns about the implications of the RPT potentially issuing any kind of formal statement, as that could impact relationships with partner organizations and make them wary of future collaboration.
      - Service providers emphasized the need for clarity on the specific objectives and outcomes the RPT is hoping to achieve by having this discussion, so they can properly represent their organizations.
  - Community Member Perspectives:
      - There was recognition that the LGBTQ2S+ community is not monolithic, and that there are diverse perspectives and experiences, even within the same identity groups.
      - Some community members felt that as a political organization, Capital Pride was simply doing its job by making a statement, and that the issue arose more from other organizations choosing to take political stances.

- **Update and announcements:**
  - Should member's emails be visible in group emails?
      - The group decided that yes, emails should be visible to those in the RPT. The group also stressed the importance of respecting confidentiality when emails are forwarded to others folks beyond the RPT