Abstract
Through empowerment and unison, we can better the life and education of students with disabilities. This moderated panel discussion will address the importance of early intervention, how to prepare yourself for an IEP meeting, roles of the educator-activist, and how teachers can support their community to become more inclusive, as it truly takes a village!

Agenda:
4:30-4:40 Introductions
4:40-5:00 My child was diagnosed with a disability. What now? (Riane SantaCruz De Melo)
5:00-5:20 How to prepare for an IEP meeting from the inside out. (Fabiola Ana Torrez)
5:20-5:40 Beyond the classroom (Kelly Thomas)
5:40-6:00 The educator activist (Marissa Kase, Ed.D.)
6:00-6:20 Q & A
6:20-6:30 Closing & RER/HW Explanation

Join Our Guest Panel
Riane SantaCruz De Melo
FAU alumnus, (Former) Broward Early Steps Service Coordinator

Fabiola Ana Torrez-Chalifour
Parent Coach & Advocacy Coordinator at United Community Options of Broward, Palm Beach & Mid-Coast Counties UCO, Broward Autism Foundation President

Kelly Thomas
FAU alumnus, School District of Palm Beach County Teacher

Marissa Kase, Ed.D.
School District of Palm Beach County Teacher, CEC President

If you need a reasonable accommodation to fully participate in this event, contact Sharon Darling at sdarlin4@fau.edu, 561.297.0807 or TTY Relay Station 1.800.955.8770. Please make your needs known as soon as possible, preferably at least four business days prior to the event, to allow sufficient time for effective accommodations.